



To the Courteus

Readers.



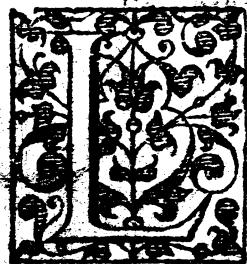
Ike as the Load-stone pointeth at
the immouable poles of Heauen,
and will not lye still otherwise : so
true generous and noble mindes
cuer aymet vertue, and esteeme
their noble houses by them halfe
stayned , vnlesse in valorous pro-
wesse, wise policies, and kinde courtesies, they equal
themselves to , (if not surpassee) the most famous of
their Progenitors , yea of all whereof memoriall is
extant : by which their worthie endeuors they liue
in most great honourable reputation in this world,
and after do liue by fame euerlastingly . Among
which famous worthies , this *Edward of Lancaster*
here mentioned, deserueth not the least praise or pris.
And if any will alleage, that in this Poeticall praising
of him, there be many fictions (as, *Poetis et pictoribus*
permagna conceditur licentia) let such learne to reade
cheife manner of bookees, as *Socrates* wished women
to vse their looking glasses ; namely , faire women,
to looke on their glasses , to beware that their
good maners may shine as well as their beautie; and
ill-

Dance
R. 126.

In the preface to Warner's "Syrinx" where it is said that
"Honoris conquest" was stolen from him.



To the Courteus Readers.



Ike as the Load-Stone pointeth at
the immoueable poles of Heauen,
and will not lyef still otherwise : so
true generous and noble mindes
euer ay me at vertue, and effecte
their noble houses by them halfe
stayned , vnlesse in valorous pro-
wesse, wise policies, and kinde courtesies, they equal
themselves to , (if not surpassee) the most famous of
their Progenitors , yea of all wherof memoriall is
extant : by which their worthie endeuors they liue
in most great honourable reputation in this world,
and ~~after do liue by fame euerlastingly~~ . Among
which famous exortacio[n]es, this *Song of Zemphira*
here mentioned, deserueth not the least praise or prile.
And if any will alleage, that in this Poeticall praising
of him, there be many fictions (as, *Poeticis et pictoribus*
permagna conceditur licentia) let such learne to reade
theſe manner of bookeſ, as *Socrates* wished women
to ſe in their looking glaſſes ; namely , faire women,
to looke on their glaſſes , to beware that their
good maners may ſhine as well as their beautie; and
ill-

ill-fauoured women, to indeuour that their inward vertues might make gratioues theyr outward defor- mities. So let Gentlemen by reading these bookees obserue therein onely those things, the practise whereof may innoble them more and more, and the baser and cowardly sort, here learne onely what may promote them: And thus wishing the ende of all thy reading to bee to attaine true vertue, I wish thee an eternall reward of gloric. Farewell.

H. R.

THE MOST DE- leitable and pleasant Hy-

storie, of the Illusturous and most puif-
sant Prince, Edward, Knight of the
holie Crosse of ierusalem.

The first Chapter.



I hath bene sayde (courteous Gentle-
men) in the first part of this Hystorie,
that this most famous Prince, our home
born Countryman, having finished with
great solemnitie, his marriage, to the
good content of himselfe, and more en-
creaſe of ioy to his Ladie Valia, ma-
king small stay, as desirous to ſee the ho-
lie place where our Sauour was aliuie and dead, giving the
Thracian King moſt honourable thanks for their great enter-
tainment, & honouer done him and his Princes at their marriage,
embarked firſt his Ladie in a ſmall Hattia, which came from
Marceelas, whiche of purpoſe he ſtraighted for Ceneto Vechia,
committing the care of her, & her ſervant Alinda, to the god
regard of the Frier who married them. Whiche done, having
well intreated the maſter, marriners, and marchants, for
their moſe fauour in their voyage, the winde blowing a freſh
ſeuell, they weighed their Anchors, ſet ſaile, and betooke them
ſelues to the merces of the raging Willowes.

What ſorrowfull parting was betwixne th̄m, I omit,
leaving that to thair iudgement, which on the like ſuddenne ſe-

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depart with their sweete loues. To recount unto you the tra-
uaile of our beloued Knight to the holy lande, of which he
had great care, having embarked his Ladie with her fol-
lowers, taking a most reverend farewell of the King, the
Queene, and the Princesse Argentino, with all the Peeres
of their Countrey, who both honoured and loued him, hee
beteke him. Ise to trauaile, not vnlamented of all the Court,
whose loue was so vntited unto him, that it seemed theyr spi-
rits to part with their boordes at his bidding faire will. But as
all things must haue ende, so had the Knight made an ende of
giving the kinde Adieu to that Countrey: and onely accom-
panied with his Page, well mounted, hee tooke his iourney
first for Peloponensee, an auncient Cittie of Greece, which
after many a wearie iourney, passing the dangerous moun-
taines, and vncouth places vnhabited but of rauening and
most ouglie beastes, he recovered that Cittie of fame, where he
had of the Viceroy most honourable entertainment, with all
shewes of loue and kindnesse that hee could require: where
resting himselfe after his wearie trauailes, he leaueth him for a
time, to recount unto you the successe of the Princesse Vallia,
in her iourney by sea.

CHAP. II.

How Argentino conorting with a Knight of her Coun-
try to make the Ladie Vallia away, who assailed her at
Sea, and what chaunced her.



He prince, whose loue Argentino, daugh-
ter to the Thracian King by all meanes
sought to obtaine, burned in such iealousie
and hate, wanting her desire, that all
her mind and studie was, by some death
or other, to quite her of her ryuall, the
iouelie Ladie Vallia, thinking thereby
to gaine the loue of her knight, which we
more

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more desired then the worldes gods, and sifting her wemens
wit, which was apt enough to manie diuelish deuises, and find-
ing none so perfect, which shée durst to practise, flauing with
reuenge to finis her intended euill, bethought her of a knight
in her fathers Court, whose counterance and shewes of kind-
nesse perswaded her, he intended some singular affaction vnto
her. Of this knight, her thoughts assured her: wherefore,
casting from her all regarde of honour, required in such of so
highes esteme: she sent for the knight, commanding her messen-
ger to haue him vnto her presence. In which, no time was delai-
ed of either part. For the Messenger no sooner had deliuered the
princes pleasure, but the knight whose affections was sen what
bent to her loue, as one new rise from a drieant, mazed to be-
hold such visions, as often in sleep appeareth, vsing himselfe,
without any questions demaunding, hasteneth with such speed
as he could best vse, to her presence, whom with great favour,
and unuonted courtesies, he kindly entertained, vsing manie
pleasing spachs, to inchaunt him to effect her diuelish will.
Of all which, when he had with such kinde thankes requited
her, and that shée felt the tole had taken some conceit of her
lyking, cunningly to see howe this potion would worke, shée^{sayeth:}

Siegnur Gualintie, for that I haue noted the weake con-
ditions of men, and see by experiance the small account they
haue of their wordes, and fauill promise, I dare not say what
I would, wherefore, I am enforced to conceale in secret, that
which to the death consumeth me. And therefore withall,
feigning a womanish kinde of heauiness, powring forth a
fewe dissembling teares, like the Crocadill, to effect her inten-
ded euill, she ceaseth her speach. Gualintie which sawe these
underpected motions, amazed therat, could not suddenly con-
ceive what these motions might intend, yet arming at her pas-
sion, which he imagined was some discontent, he saith.

Honoured Princesse, what occasions your grace haue to
carrie so hard opinions of mens constancie, if were to deuise a
matter for me to question, yet I wold your god thoughts m^{ight} be

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be such of your humble servant, as I desire it shalld, and as my will is at your excellent hands to deserue, I doubt not then but my loyaltie shalld recover those loose opinions you haue of mens constancie: for performance whereof, in all faythfull dutie, I humbly offer the faith of a knight.

The Princesse Argentino, glad to find the Gentleman in so god a humoz, was easly drawne to belauie what he promised. And therefore without standing on fearnes of light beleeve, she sayde. Gentle knight, whose wode I hold so firme, as the surest bands, I accept your kinde proffer of courtesie, for which, by that true fayth which honour ought to maintaine, your performance shall bee so requited, as thou shalt euer bee honourde for the same, and thy posterite. Therfore what I intend, I will noz can no longer conceale from thee.

I know (gentle knight) and with that a sigh drawing teares, restrained her dissembling speech, so that she could not vitter what she had to say, yet putting off she procedes: Let it bee knowne to thee, most honourde knight, those abuses offered me in our owne Court, by that disloyall and vnjust knight of the holy Crosse, who making shewes of loue vnto mee, manie times courted me with his false intended suites, as well as by his flatteryng teares of no other intent, as I find now by just proffe, but to dishonour me and my father: else after so manie protestations, vowes, and solempne oathes taken, his loyall affection to me was such, as no torment nor sorow, nor no turmoyle whatsoeuer, could remoue from his false and dissembling heart: he would not before my face in presence of my gracious father, and his most noble Peeres, haue conioyned hym selfe in mariage with a runnagate Damsell, a begger, a common trasteller, and therefore no better then a common courtesan, by his disgrace, so disgracing mee, as the remembraunce thereof can never be rooted from my faythfull heart, nor never

all my bodie take his naturall sustenancie, vntill I be by some meanes or other, reuenged on him and her, that thus most perjured hath shewed hym selfe, the most vnjustest knight of the worlde. And that minyon, the which doubtlesse by some enchan-

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sed spelles hath wonne his loue from me, to her liking, which otherwise she could never haue done.

This (god knight quoth she,) my long protestations might wearie thee: but pardon my fault, and imagine how deare I holde thee, that amongst all the Brights of my fathers Court, haue made choyse of you, to participate with mee of my great heauiness: for which, if thou canst but set downe a reuenge sufficient for them, but chiefly for that enchanting sorceresse, and execute it by thine owne hande, I promise my selfe thine euernlastingly, or what other reward so euer thou shalt require. Guylanie, which felte by her speeches, that grewe she endured, was onely a longing to reuenge her of her loues riuall, a torment which stirgeth all women to the heart, hoping she would proue as firme as she proffred she would, and that in pleaseing her fancies, and reuenging her on the Ladie, he shoulde gaine her loue, for so much by her insinuating speech hee gathered, standing on no more poynts of hauring, but effecting her wode.

He voweved by that honour, which at her princely fathers hands he had received, never to take one quiet sleepe, vntill hee was for her on the Ladie throughly reuenged, and that with such rygour, as shee her selfe could not deuise so ill a torment. And so taking his leaue, humbly kissing her handes, he left her to her accustomed thoughts, speeding to the Lantano of the citie, or as we say the Admirall, who had charge of all the kings Gallies, Foysts, Brigantines, and Frigots, vnto whom, saigning a matter of seruice, hee had for the employmant of one chiefe Gallie, he compeunded with him for her, and presently had her furnished, with vittalles, and all other needfull things: which done, as one carefull of what he intended, he put to the Seas, and by his owne skill, knowing what course the Ladie kept for her port of Cenico Vechia, shaped the like to his maister, rowing that night with all the force his ppoore slave was able to make. In the morning the Sunne shewing his most glorious and splendent beames, and finding hym selfe by his maisters reckoning to be well shotte from his owne coast, he

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ter some kinde shewes of loue, and requitall to the master
for his seruice and forwardesse in finishing his pretence, omit-
ting the principall cause of following the shipp he southt, yee
earenowe ... set vñ a certaine cheere him, by a Merchant
in that compaie of whom he so earnestly craued reuenge. The
Master whiche could well demeane himselfe, knowing the
knight to be of great account, and belieuing what he had sayd,
promised his best furtherance for the same. And shiffting his
course for their m^{re} sped, well waiting howe the wind had
scanted vpon th^m, haled ouer for an Iland, where common-
lie all men bound that way, accustomed to water. In which
place by chancie unhappily they met them. The Lady and her
wood beeing on the shore recreating themselues, and the
men busied in getting water, wood, and such wants, abowd,
saw the Willie whiche rowd mainely in for the place, who
swung their colours, by which they were knowne to bee of
Thrace, there was no further doubt, they having the Kinges
passe, and the leauge such betwene the nations.

But the knyght whose heart was bound to revenge hym
on a guiltless Ladie, no sooner came to anchour in the road, but
halling the shipp, enquired for the Ladie, who was then a shore,
whiche hearing, he spedeth vnto them, furnished with twentie
of his best men well appoynted, whiche he thought to bee suffi-
cient to supprise such naked people as hee supposed they were.
No sooner was he on land, but with hollow heart, saluting the
Frenchmen he met, vnto whom he was well knowne, requi-
ring speches with the Ladie, he was by those that honourred
her for her fathers loue, as also for her noble husband, sim-
ply conducted to the place, where the Frier, with all the Mar-
chants were devoutly on their knees at prayer, vnto whose D-
rasons this bloodie minded knyght, as bad cleareke, said Amen,
long before it was time, without regard of honour or oath
made for defensye of Ladyes, rushing vpon them, layde vio-
lent handes vpon her, and others on the rest of the Gentle-
women, intenciong to haue carried her away perforce, whiche
the Frenchmen seeing, loth to lose the Ladys good company,
requirid

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required th: knight to acquaint them with his intent, in casting them into wrong, whose kindness refusing, without returning any answere, with his sworde slue him that first spake, which caused the others, with such weapons as they had, to revenge their companions death, so that betweene them began a most cruell and grievous fight: the Frenchmen fighting in the righte of our English Caueliers Ladies, so valiantly behaved by themselves, that they slue the most part of those which came a shox: from whom recovering their weapons, it is not to be thought what exploits was done betweene them. But in the ende all sorting out to the knights overthrow, who was in the fight slaine, with all his compaine that sied with him in the action. Such as fled was by those y were busily imployed, seeing their friends so ill entreated, slain, so that none recovered to carry tidings how they sped. The Frier in this bytyle being a man of peace, taking care of the Ladie and her compaine, withdrew them from their presence: & searching in feare some place of safetie, from pursuit of the enemies, by chaunce lighted on the Cell of an Hermet, wherein they shrowded themselves.

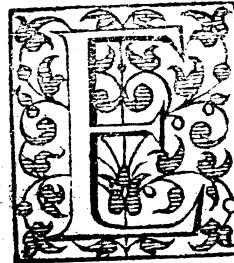
The maister in the Gallie, noting their ill successe a shose,
layd the ship aboard, rifled her of what she had, and like a most
cruell wretch, sunke her in the roade: which done, hysing his
sayles, having a wunde faire for his port, he made no longer
stay, leauing the Ladie with her compaine in a barraune
frequented Isle, having no release at all of any thing, but such
rootes and hearbes provided for them by the aged Yrmet,
Whose guesse they were. Nowe against their willes, with
this Yrmet wee leauen them a season, to attend their denou-
tions, and a time of deliuerance, the Maister with the Gallie
bound for his home, to shewe you what other fortunes befall
the knight of the Crosse.

CHAPTER

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CAHP. III.

How the Knight of the holie Crofse, after some small stay
in Peloponenses, betooke him to his trauaile, with his
fortunes.



Dward having reposid himselfe in this Cittie, thinking the tyme long vntill hee sawe the ende of his desired iourney, taking leaue of the Tercry, betooke himselfe to his god fortunes. Two dayes trauaile hee throughout those desarts of Greece, onely accompanid with his Page, and a Currier which was his guide. The thirde day hee had sight of a myghtie conuoy of Cammills, being at least sixe thousand, with their Marchants, which came from India, bound into Egypt. To those gouernours and Marchants he sent, requiring them of vittalles to relieu his store: his wine and oyle, by a casuall happe being lost, and no place of refuge neere to relieue it by a farre way: which the Marchants verie kindly graunted, furnishing his wants of what he required, and they could spare. With this companie he continued thre dates, very pleasantly passing the tyme amongst them, of whose companie they were all right glad. The third day drawinge towards the euening, as they began to vnsurprise their Cammills, and to set vp their Tents, determining to lode there all night, their espials desrid a companie of armed people, well mounted, which sped them towards their companie, so hardly pursuing the scowts, that they had much a do to escape. Of these people the Marchants had great doubt, and seemed to be verie much troubled in minde at these tidings: which the knight perceiving, charged them with such comfortable speches, as he could beth better, and they understand: arming himselfe to withstand their forces, and placing his compaines with such weapons as they had to receive

them,

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them, which was scarcely finished, before sixe gallant Caulerers, with their staves charged cme neere vnto them, and required the marchants to valuer those goods they had, for the vses of their king.

The Marchants, reposing thenselfes of this noble champion, were driven to a non plus, what to answere, but as men amazid, stode gazing one the other in the face, whose timorous nesse the knight perceiving, dreading no colours, mounting himselfe with his staffe charged in the rest, singled himselfe, and putting forwarde, required those gallants to say what their busynesse was. The Tartares perceiving him to bee a knight at Armes, and they souldiours, answered.

Sir, what thou art we know not, but by thy seeming, if wee be not deceiued, thou art a man of Armes, whom we come not in any sort to molest. But for these base fugitives, which haue wronged our King of his customes, due to be payde of all men passing his Countrey, we come to be satisfied, which we will haue, or lese our dearest liues in gaining thereof: therefore gentle sir, as we haue declared the truth of our comming, take no part with them, if thou louest thine ewne welfare. The knight which heard their reasonable answers, could not take any thing spoken in ill part, vntill he had examined the truth of the marchants, and whether there was any such custome due to their king as they required, which on there great oathes they denied, vowing vnto them by all solemnne protestations they could vse, that there were none belonging to the King, but outlawes, and such as laved on the spoyle of traualers, neither was there euer any custome required of anie prince in their tyme, some of them having vsed that passage many yeares before.

The god knight which was leach to wrong either part, could not tell what to answer, considering the guise of men, which is to make the best of their owne matters, called the cheaste marchants, for in them he had most trust, and examining stricly each particular, of their abode, their cause of trauaile, and their place whither they were bounde, shwoe them to the truthe of all

that

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what they had spoken, which done he returned againe vnto the armed outlawes, which attended his answer, saying.

False villaines, and deceitfull wretches, how dare you, being robbers and disturbers of peaceable trauailers, so much to abuse the reuerent name of your king, who is altogether unacquainted with your trecheries, as to make his authoritie a shelter for your bloudie mindes, and spoyleynge the goddes of honest men, that you haue abused both him and vs, you shall all weil know. Therefore if your busynesse be no other then I haue no tyme it is, depart, or you shall know, to your great sorrow, and hearts griefe, that you haue met with him which will not bee daured with your high looks.

The Tartares hearing him speake so like himselfe, and with such resolution, could well haue forborne to deale with him, or his compaines, yet setting their rest vpon the courage of their compaines, which were all well appoynted, and better mounted, defied the knight, who taking all aduantages, seeing their resolution such, encouraging the Marchants, who were all fearesfull of losynge what they had, began most honourably to assaile them whose power was as brauely resisted a long tyme: in this conflict was most honourable deedes of Armes by the noble knight done, who ever chearede his compaines, which were all likely to runne away. So hote and fiercely continued this god knight this assault, that encouerting hand to hand the principall leaders, he gaue them such payment, as they could not with all their skill finde fault with their paymaster: such order hee tooke with them, dealing dole to all their costes, that manie of them for feare fled the feld, betaking them to places where they might beholde the wonderfull deedes of honour done by this most renowned knight, which on all sides they so assayled, as he had no way to get out, but such passage as he made with his welltempered Curyclar, of whose mettall he made at that instant sufficient profe, which those outlawes well felt. And percyuing their power too weake, to conquer where such a quide was, reluded no longer to abide in hope, but cuerie one to make such meanes

as

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as he best couid for his owne safetie, which the noble knight percyuing, so hotlye pursued, that many Tartares soules hee sent to death: Others without armes, legges, and other imanes, lay weltering in theyr owne bloud, that it was lamentable to see, such a Massacre amongest men, if they had beene such, as in men living in Princes obediencie they shold bee.

These Peasantes thus syng, and the noble Edwardre wearied with pursuite of them, night beeing at hande, so as it was not to bee discerned a friend from a foe, returning againe vnto his compaines Tentes, in a Tally dicaunted from them a good Hyle, hee was there at vnawares set vpon by one of their leaders, which had escaped him in the battaile, who gathering together an hundred of his straggling Companys, knowing him to bee gone that way, encountered him, who beeing wearie of the toyle taking so lately, had like to haue put him to the foyle, beeing so at the aduaantage assayled. Yet hee whose heart never was stene to faynt, arming himselfe to defende, casting his Scherde on his arme, putting himselfe amonkest the rowte of them, still crying Lancaster, God and Saint George for Englannde, laying so about him, that some heades, some handes, and others in most pitifull wise cryng out, hee made way thorothe the thickest, so behauing himselfe, that cuerie one that coulde make shifte for one, was willing to give him rowme, and to bee gone. Of whome beeing cleared, breathing himselfe, and receyving some ayre, hee might espie before him running vp the Hill, a Gallant mounted on a Hulke white Courser, which the knight imagined shoulde bee the commaundour of those compaines which last assayled him, with whom desirous to acquaint himselfe: hee gaue spires to his hysle, and so earnestly followed this Companion, who little thought of his comming, that ouer-taking him before hee was looked for, hee arrested him so soundlie with his blade of artheitie, as he made him to take his Hysle, to fasse the swetenesse of the

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earth, which done he dismounted himselfe, saying: Abide you gallant, and accept a straungers courtesie. I promise thē false felon as thou art, thou dishonourest thy Maister, which made thē a receiver of custome, to run away when payment is tendered: wherefore seeing there is no more trust in thee, heere in your kings name, I discharge thee of this office. And so at one blow taking his head with his Curtelax from his bodie, left his soule to him that had most right.

This latter taske accomplished, breathing himselfe a while, hee mounted his Hoſte, and pacing easilie towardes the Tents, which by the fires light hee had sight of, hee was mette with diuere of his compaie of the Marchants, who beeing men of more valuer then manie of the rest, had put themselves in search of this worthie Knight, passing all the way, thorow so manie heapes of deade men, and grieuous wounded bodyes, that they admired his worthinesse, applauding his valour, and still praying him, giving him the honour, aboue all men at Armes, whatsocuer they had either heard of or seene.

Thus passing on in search of their honourable friend, whose compaie they were not willing to forgo, sometimes carefull of his welfare, otherwhile commanding his halutie deeds of chivalrie, they espied passing dwone the hill, a man armed, which they coulde not perfectly discerne, and therefore made a stande, intending to see if there came any more, before they put themselves into daunger. But beeing perçued of thē Knight, who stoode still on his guarde, doubtfull of anie more such vnappected customers, making readie for the fight. And giving his Verse such way, as in his swiftest galloppe hee accustomed to make, he cried fiercelie out saint George. At which words the Marchants having knowledge of him, dismounted themselves, and kissing his handes, his knees and feet, honored him for more then a mortall man, which kindness, albeit he expected no such reverent honour, hee tooke thankesfullie, requiting them with all courtesie, for the care they had of his well doing, so with pleasant discourses

they

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they passe the way untill they came to thē tents, where they alighting, tooke him carefullie from his hoſte, and bringing him with all dutie to his lodging puruaide for him, they unarmed him, washing his bruſed body, and ſuch ſmall ſcarres as hee reſerved in fight, with moſt preſcious Balmeſ, which done, making him all the frolike cheare and honour they could, they command him for that night to his reſt, cauſing a ſure guard, and heaſfull watch to attend him in his tent, and placing faithfull ſentinels, dreading the enemies, they tooke themſelues to their quiet reſole.

C H A P. IIII.

Howe the Knight of the Crosſe, taking leaue of the Marchants and their compaie, left them to their iourney.



He day ne ſoner gaue light, but the Negroes and ſlaves prouided to load their Camels, which done, the Tents taken downe, and all things ordered to depart, the way lying now for the knight to leaue their compaie, when they had well broken theyr fast, and carowled to their weſte, prouiding of al ſuch prouision as they had, they presented him with a moſt curiuſe casket of the rareſt Jewels that euer his eyes beheld, beſeeching him to accept them at their hands, as intereſt of their loues, bewing themſelues euer his in all humble ſervices. The Knight which was as courteous as valiant, ſeeing their thankfulliſſe ſuch, making choyſe of ſome ſpeciall Jewels, required them to value thole which hee did ſancie, for without paying their prize, hee would accept none. The Marchants which had received the benefit of his valour, and freed from thole men of miſchief which had deſpoyleſd them of all if hee had bene abſent, generally beſought him to take in worth thole they had preſented, for that not onely theyr gods but their liues was his, al-

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leadging

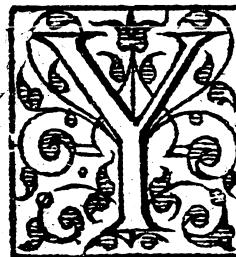
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leadging that by him they enjoyed what they had, and therefore would not be intreated to receive any of them againe, but besought him with all humblenesse, if hee would not receiue them, to beslow them on whom he would.

The knight when he saw their impertinate sute, commended their thankfulness, willing them to attribute that god hee had done for the to God, by whose sufferance he had wrought their safetie, and in all places to speake of Englands honour, and their knight aduenturers: which done, taking those Jewels of most esteeme with him, hee commended them to theys iourney, who with many loath depart, bade him often times farewell with heauie hearts. This adue taken, we leauie the knight to his aduentures, the Merchants to finish their iourney, vntill fit time serue to recount such other aduentures as hee enterprised, to shew you further of the Lady Vallia, Alynde and their honest company, left in the vnfreighted Isle.

C H A P. V.

Of the great discomfort of the Lady Vallia, who of a conceited feare, fell sicke of a greeuousmalladie.



Du haue heard gentils, how the Ladie Vallia with those Merchants, was in the vnfreighted Iland, left without any manner of sustenaunce or release, either then such wilde rootes, hearbes, and fruities, as naturally had their beeing in that barraine soyle, through which vnusuall diet, and a conceited feare of more insuing daungers, the Lady fell sicke of an extrememalladie, for whose recoverie no helpe could availe: yet did those religious Hermits and Fryers the best they could. The Merchants and others of the compaie, to amende theyz diet, employed theyz labours to fish, and to making of ginnies, to take soule and such brasse as was thare to be had, enely

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for her content, but in vaine do they sieke to mittegate her sorowes, or recover her health, such was her greefe for her Lords absence, and feare of more harsh pursuit of the enemies.

In this perplexed estate continued this god Lady, past all hope of recoverie, giuen quite ouer to death by all the compaie, who ceased not their prayers for her god health. But as in all extremes the fauour of our God is most shewene, so beholde in this, Vallia lying on her hard cabine, slumbering as in a dreame, there appeared vnto her thoughts a beautifull Personage, so glorioius in his attyre, as she beholding thereof seemed to lacke her senses. This Angell as shee supposing, after some pause and standing to behold her, thus said.

V Allia, surfece thy further dread: thy Lord enjoyeth his life, whom once againe thou shalt meete, but haue no knowledge of him for a time: thine nearest allied death hath taken: yet dismay not, for in the seede of thy wombe shalt thou be made glorious. My message is done: thine intercessions are hard, and thy deliuerie from this place asit hand.

This said, clapping his wings, as to her seemed, he left the caue, and departed, wherewith Vallia, as one awaked from a trance, seeming as one of her wits to be bereft, cried mainely out for helpe, whose sodaine motens caused them all to feare her death was at hand: yet comforted they her all they might with such spech & words of heauie pleasures as in such times is convenient to be vsed, so long continuing their talke, that in the end grasping her had about the neck of her frusy Alinda: she raised her selfe in her bed, and fetching a deep sigh, said. Reverent father Hermit, you patron of learning, and others my god friendes, this night haue I stene my saviour face to face, who by his divine prouidence hath vouchsafed to shew him, selfe vnto me his sinfull handmaide, by whom I am assured of my Lords prosperitie, and all our felidomes from this place.

The Hermit and the rest hearing these speches proceed from her,

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her imagined the lightnesse of her head had moued these san-
cies, and had the more doubt of her good health, and standing
as men amazed, gazing one the other in the face, were as men
senselesse, whose hard beleefe of her wordes uttered, caused her
thus replie. Fathers and my good friends, let it not seeme in-
credulous what I haue sayde, but attend the euent, which en-
suing to our comforts as we expect, give the honour to him, by
whose prouidence we are comforted. This said, bidding them
good night, shē fell into a most swete sleepe, in which she con-
tinued till the morning was farre spent. Before which time
the company which vsually went about their vndertaken la-
bours for getting their victuals, from the tops of the moun-
taines desiried a small sayle at sea, which they viewed, ear-
nestly waiting by a compasse they had, which way shē bare:
but so long gazed they, that the gale blewinge hie, and fitting
their cause, which were bounde thither for water, having
spent their stoe at sea, through such continuall soule weþer
which they indured, in such manner, that they durst cease no
land for feare of daunger. They desiried their hul, which
scene, well was hē that might make most haste with the first
tydings, thinking the time long vntill they came to the caue,
where being mere speechlesse with the hast they made, a so-
daine feare possessed all the compaines, specially Alinda, whose
heart was at her hæle vntill shē heard them deliuer the cause
of their spedie comming, which knowne, God was glori-
fied in generall. And Villia as one ouer ioyed at this sodaine
newes, might not by any intreatie be held longer in her bed,
but calling for her apparrell, attired her selfe with such cou-
rage, as if shē had felt no græfe, which done, resting her
weake body on the arme of her Alinda, shē left the desolate
caue, to take the comfort of the swete ayre abroade, and to see
the euent of those blessed tydysg she hoped of.

By this time was the shipp ancored, and the Marriners ma-
king haste for water, whereof they had great neede, heyled
their boate, and with their vessels came a shore, where they
were heartily welcommied of those poore distressed people,

who

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who enquired diligently from whence they were, and what oc-
casyon drove them to that coast. Sayz quoth the boathswaine, be-
ing a man of some god demeanour, we are of Sicilia, an Iland
belonging to the Spanish king, bound by our charty partie, for
the coast of Egypt, and meeting as poore sea men oft bes, with
soule weþer, the winds raiging in such maner, our stoe of
wine being spent, & water scarce, our coming is hither for that
releefe. Thus sir, quoth he, as I haue acquainted you with our
fortunes, refuse not to let vs knowe what you are, which haue
your abode in a place so vnreþected as this, where I haue be-
fore this time bin ofte, but never saw or heard any ylued here.

Friend quoth the Marchant, wee are here a great many
poore distressed soules, which by violence of an enemie that vn-
awares assailed vs on the shore, were driven for safegard of
this Lady to stand on our defence, where by fortune and the
assistance of God, we vanquished the proude daring enemies,
which were on land with vs: which when his compaines
perceiued that kept aboard his gally, they first rising our shipp,
taking what they best liked, and afterwards leaving vs with-
out any releefe, sauing that apparrell on our backes, sunke our
shipp, and left vs to our fortunes, since which time we never
had sight of any man or shipp, whereof we had any hope of
comfort, before this time. Therefore if God haue ordained you
for our god, and that as Christians you pitte our distresses,
helpe this Lady with vs her friendes, to any place inhabited
by Christians, your payment shall be large, and your charita-
ble deede rewarded both of God and men.

The Boathswayne being a man as full of pitte as courage,
hearing this lamentable discourse, and seeing the weake e-
state of the Lady, was moued with remorse of their god, pro-
mising his best furtherance for their comforts: so shipp-
ing one hoghead of water for the compaines, hastned aboard, ta-
king with him the Fryer and two Marchants, whose words
wrought such effect with the master and the rest, that a con-
clusion was pastie for their passage, and the master comming
a shore, brought with him for the Ladies releefe, such

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lycas,

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bread, succor, and other provision as he had, which came in good time, and not before it was long looked for, which was as thankfully received. The master and his company having a care to be at sea, applyed all their people to labour, so that within two daies they were well provided with water, ready to set sayle.

CHAP. VI.

How Vallia and the rest taking leue of their good host the Hermit, was shipped from thence, with their fortunes.



Whch was the industrie of the Master, that long time was not spent before all needful things were provided, when having a pleasing gale for their course, warning was given to the passengers to be readie, for whom they made no long stay, but their leue taken of the old Hermit, they commend him in their prayers to God, and themselves to such successe as they expected.

All things fitted and the passengers abord the ancors weyed, an nimble boy pare with his knife, gane way to the sayles, which tryned to god passe, a maine they cutte the waues, and joyful of this happiness, as to be endowid with great treasure, two daies & more they enjoyed of quiet and calm content, without any annoyance either of wether or enemies: the third morning beeing overcast and gloomie, a boy looking out for dangers, espied vnder the edge of an Iland, two stout Gallies, who having sight of the shippes, made towardes them with all spedee they could, of which beeing aduertised, a generall feare possessed all their hearts, especially the Ladie, who having so lately felt the force and extremitie of the mercilesse foe, was doubtful of the like. But how timorous soever women in their kinde be, it refelth for men in extremities to shew themselves. The master being a man of courage, called

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all the compaines, as well strangers as others, and vnts them he sayth. Friendes all and companions, wee haue nowe small time to stande on discourses, seeing our enemies are at hand: if enimies they bee, as it is most likely, he wch they getts the best, and wee by our cowardize subiect our selues vnto them, I doubt not but you all haue heard what miserie wee shall endure, for Turkes they are, that is without all doubt: therefore like men shewe your selues and arme you with courage and hope of victorie, for howsoeuer death cannot bee so bitter as the tormentes they will inflict on you, if they preuaile. Therefore as many as will take parte with me, holde vp your heades, and provide for your saftie.

These wordes were no sooner delivered from the Master, but you might see with what united hearts euerie man gaue his consent to fight it out, and standing on no termes, every man provided him such weapons as hee coulde best use, lacing close theyr mettinges, and making ready theyr fire workes to annoy them: whilste euerie man was thus busied, Vallia whome feare hadde neare overwhelmed, was comforted by her friendly trust Alinda, who chearing her weake spirits, said. Auant your feare Madam, cast heauynesse aside, and let not these sullen thoughts cumber you, we know the worst, death is to bee preferred before a miserable life. Therefore take courage, shewe your selfe to bee your selfe, and remeber your noble Lord, who were hee present, would dare all those curs to behold his face. Though we be wemen lets do our best, or at least, if your heart quale, giue me leue, for before you die some of them shall abyde your life, or both my heart, power, and weapon shall faile me.

Vallia, which sawe her woman in this humour, could not forbeare to smile, howe heauie soever her heart was, yet setting a god face on the matter, sayde, well Alinda well, your great shewes will proue I feare but a bolde cowards bragge, as much may they do that say little, as they that fill the ayre with threatening clamours, whatsoeuer thy thoughts are of my

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feare, if my helpe neede, whereunto I trust it will never come, Alinda shall see Vallia hath Raynolds heart, though not his apparel.

Whilst they were thus pleasantly iesting, to the good encouraging of all the compaunie, whose care was most for them, the Gallies comming vp, haled them, commanding them to strike, and the master with the Marchants to come aboard, or without resistance to suffer them enter. The Marchants of France, passengers hearing theyr peremptory speeches, answered. Proude and vnhallowed curs, what think ye of vs, to bee men or babes, that you dare vs so with these speeches, knowe that before thou haue in possession the least haire of any of our heades, thou shalt deerely abyde them, therefore amaine, amaine, and therewithall hauing his peece reade, fired the same, aiming at the pope, wherewith shooting at randen, by great fortune killed the Admirall of the Gallies, which done, a most sharp & bloudy fight began, and with great courage on the Christians parte maintayned, who with their ordinance slew their slaves and companies like Bees: which disaduantage the Turks seeing and feeling, fighting so farre off, boorded them one on the one side, the other on the other: at this onset beganne the Spaniards to quale, which were cheered to the fight by their passengers, who seeing theyr valour, was encouraged to sticke to that which else they had givuen ouer, especially seeing and noting how manly and without feare, the Lady Vallia and her Alinda deuoted themselves, who spying their times to worke on the aduantage, seeing their chaines full with Turks, ready to enter theyr ship, from a port with their shooke pikes, spoyled many, thrusting them ouer boord, and killing divers, and spedding them from that labour, two naked Turkes having fastned an anchor at their Shippes rother, thinking to enter in theyr stearne partes, by Vallia and Alinda were so pleyed with Pottes of Powder fired, Pikes of wilde fire, and such other, as theyr whole compaunie giveng ouer the fight, there was very fewe or none, eyther Turkes or Christian slaves

which

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which could stand so pitifully were they spoyled, burnes, and massacred, whereby they enforced them to yeld themselves vnto the Christians mercies, of whom they tooke small pite: but drenching them all in the sea they founde alive, sunke one of the Gallies, and taking all the Christians into the other that were able to serue, freed them from their chaines, and caused the wounded to be drest, left the Gally in possession that night of a Marchant of Marceelas: which done, and all things quietly ended, the Frier which saue how valiantly the Ladie and Alinda employed their forces, highly commended them for their forwardnesse in this action, which made Alinda in reastring maner thus to say. That your Ladiship is become so valiant on the sudden, I do not greatly maruell, considering the fellowship you haue so lately with so honourable a knight, whose courage hath animated you to this hardinesse: if the husband bee famous for his worth and honour gaide in all places, no doubt but France and Spaine, and Italie, shall sound the Ladie Vallia her high deserved commendacions, whom, if God blesse with increase of children, are likelie to proue men of high account in the worlde, if they haue the fathers courages, or the mothers stomacks which is passed by with an English heart. Vallia hearing her Maiden to reaſt thus broad, cut off her speech thus.

Alinda, what motions are these, that on such sudden causeth your strings to iarde so farre beyond your custome, such maner of ieads I brouke not, though louing thee, I straine my selfe at this time to digest them. In deliuering of which speech, Alinda perceiving by her unwonted scowling of her browes, that shes was somewhat discontent at her speech, prepared her further answeres for that time. To put her from her melancholise, the master of the ship told her such viands as they had was readie, if shes pleases to sup: whereunto she was easilly entreated, haung gotten her a stromacke with her long fasting, and hard toyle in the fight. Their discourses at table of each severall accident happening, I omit, to let you knowe their ensuing actions with their successe.

CHAP. VII.

How the Spaniards deliuered the Gally vnto the French
Marchants, and Mariners, with such vittailes as they
needed, who taking with them the Lady Vallia, left them.



He Lady with her friends discouerit at sup-
per of the dangers past, leauing nothing
of worth by any one particular vntemem-
bred, done in that action, a motion was
made, that the Gally with the slaves able
to labor, and vittails necessary shuld be
givuen vnto her to bring her to her desired
port, vnto which the Spaniards to requite

the god done them by her whole companie, granted very wil-
lingly, for performance of which, order was presently take, and
each thing usefullly puruaide to the ladies good content. In the
morning early by break of the day, the master hauing the wind
faire, was loath to make longer stay then need, haled the gally,
willing them to com nere the ship, and vnto the merchant re-
vealed their intent, and what the whole companie had agreed
vpon, which was verie well accepted of the French men, who
rendred him many thanks for his fauour, for dispatch of them
both; such hast was made as possible they might, which was so-
denly done to the general, rejoicing of these pore captives who
by this overthow of the Turks, were made free. The ladie a-
bord, taking their soleyme farewell each of other, they shaped
each one there several course best fitting their turne. Vallia fro-
like with her companie, & holy fater, vnto whom with a verie
thankfull mind vnto her maker for all the successe she had re-
ceiued from him, and accomplishing her hearts desire, omitted
nothing worthy the recounting, to the great admiration of all
the hearers, especially the Frier, whose charge she was, who
calling to mind the faine of God, in revealing to her by vision
their time of sudden departure, thought her some holy & chosen
woman, & euer after in all his Masses & other ceremoniall rites

according

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according to the order of their church and bloud denotion, extol-
led the ladis farte beyond her expectation. Thus falling frō one
discourse to another, to drue the time away after they had spēt
one whole weeke at sea, they might discouer h̄ mountains neare
the old city Ceueta vecha, or old Rome, so called, & had al things
so fauourable to their desire, that long before night they re-
couered the road, where comming to anker, was presently boord-
ed by the officers of the citie, who had great feare they had bin
Turks at their first comming in: but hauing some conference
with the Frier, was certified of all their proceedings, leauing
nothing unspoken which might gaine them fame, and the ladie
honour, wherfore the officers hauing knowledge, holding that
truth which the frier had spoken, whilst they frolike with the
ladie, & her company, sent his guidelaw a shōre with one of his
confederates, charging him to deliuer to the abbot & his friers
what he heard, taking like order for puruaying her of lodgning
in the old palace of the Imperour, which he caused to be furni-
shed with all needfull furniture, as the shorthnesse of time would
permit them, with all prouision that was there to be had.

The officer who was a ioyfull man of these tidings to be the
messenger, hasteneth all he might, being with childe with those
newes, & longing to be deliuered, wherfore as soone as he recou-
ered the shōre, staith not vntill he came vnto the lord abbot,
vnto whom he forsgat nothing of his charge, which the old man
hearing, blessing & crossing himself, woderously perplexed with
the strangenes of h̄ tale deliuered, he first called his couenant frater
ther in their church, wher they praised God for them, and their
safetie, and so putting on all their best masking attire, went in
procession to the sea side, to receiue her a shōre, where they car-
ried with them the speciallest relicks they had.

The captaine of the towne with his band, in soleyme order
marching in like maner, and all the bels ringing for ioy, to wel-
com the holy Ladie. After all these the gouernours and coueneil
of the towne in their order, making such a beaultiful shew as
had not bene on such a sudden euer seene before.

All things ordred at point deuice, boats were sent out so richly
furnished

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furnished with Tapistrie, Carpets, and curious Cushions, as
was a wonder to see, the shore standing full with all the people
in the towne.

The men appoynted to bring her a shore, being noble men,
the one a gouernour in the towne, the other a Cardinall, who
bowing the Gally, on their knees solemnly kisst her handes
and feet, doing her as much honour as if our Ladie had bin pre-
sent, which she tooke small pleasure to haue, which done, and a
generall welcome to the whsole companie, the gouernour en-
treated her to take the comfort of the shore, to which small per-
suasions serued, at her going to the boat, well was hee that
mght set hand to helpe, & he thought himselfe most happiest, y
could come nearest her, such fopperie was not vsed aboynd, but
much more on the shore, where was ducking on all sides, crou-
ching and kneeling, with such singing, drumming & gunning,
that y Echo therof was enough to make a man sick. The
welcome giuen, this noble Ladie mght not be suffered to
touch the earth with her feete. But at her landing place, was
spred a molt sumptuous cloath of estate, and a Chaire thereon
to rest her, where when she had a while reposet her selfe, and
every offe of account kisst her feete and hands, fourre coman-
ders, twoo Priests, and twoo Captains, carried her in the chaire,
ouer whom was borne by the Abbot, the Cardinall, and twoo
noble men, amost rich Canapie. So marched shre vntill they
came vnto the Abbery, where preparation was made for her
lodging, whers the Procescion ending, the Cardinall and
Abbot tooke leau of the gouernours of the towne, bidding
them god night.

But they which had prouided the Emperours pallace, and
beene at great charge for her vianas, tooke in ill part, that anie
such unkindnesse shold be offered them, and in quiet maner
besought them to grant them leau to haue the guard of her,
which they so scornefully answered, that the Cardinall in spea-
king as his cholerick nature accustomed, with his hande had
like to haue giuen the Gouernour a bloswe on the face, which
unkindnesse the scouldours disdaining, by violence sought to

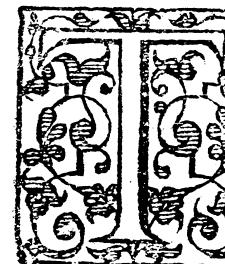
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carrie the Ladie, in such maner, and with such harsh behauiour
on both sides, that the Cardinall, Abbot, the Crofie, Banners,
and all were layd lowe on the earth, and such a hurley burley
begunne, as was never seens the like, striing for the Ladies
entertainment, which graced the god Ladie, which was then
to be ruled by thole of greatest power, the souldiers and com-
maunders of the Towne, with whom she was best pleased, for
that her loue and honourable Lord, was a man of Armes and
honour.

This discurstis the Cardinall and his company tooke in
such ill part, that they cursed all the Towne, and Towne in-
habiters, suspending them from the holy Church for euer. But
they whose care was small at that time, for any their doings
cared but little. The Lady they cheared, who wanted nothing
that was fit for her honour and welfare, where let her repose
her selfe a time with iollitie, the Fryers sweating in their euen
grease, and the Cardinall and Abbot chasimg like men franticke,
to shewe you what after happened.

CHAP. VIII.

How the Gouernour aduertised the Emperour, of the arri-
uall of the Ladie *Valla*, and what after chaunced her.



He broyle ended, a great sturre was in
all the Religious houses, amengst them-
selves, debating of the wrong offred by
the people of the Towne, the Church
dores were all sealed vp, and no man dy-
on paine of their curse to enter them.

This was considered of the Gouer-
nours, who tooke advise in the matter,
knowing the authoritie they haue in all places where their re-
ligion taketh place. Besought the Ladie for her Letters of fa-
vour to the Emperour, to the end this begunenitie, might
be appeased, wherof which she was easly perswaded, though far
against the minde of her Prelate the Fryer.

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The Ladies Letters signed, which imported his message from the Knight of the holy Crofse, and the messenger appointed, there was no detracting of time, but with all sped that he could make, he applied his businesse, until he came into Rome, where comming before the Emperour, he deliuered his Letters, which were very welcome, taking great pleasure in the comming of the Lady into those confines, being Lady and wife unto the Knight which of all men living he helde in most regard.

Whilell the Emperour was discoursing with the Messenger, a Cardinall came to summon him before the presence of the Pope, presently to appeare, to answere those wronges done by his Gouernours to the Church and Patrons therof, of all which, the Cardinall had signified his holinesse, which was held a matter most hainous.

The Cardinall gone, the Emperour called againe for the Messenger, and with him questioned of all those troubles begunne, wherof he did aduertise him in each particular, and withall, deliuered the Gouernours Letters, which he had writen to that ende, doubting such a chaunce would happen, and that the Cardinall would seeke reuenge, with all extremitie he could. When the Emperour was aduertised herof, making no stay, he came before the Pope, unto whom as the maner was, doing reverence, he requireth the cause of his spedie sending for him.

The Pope whose fury was not yet ouerpast, incensed to more choler by perswasions of the rest, who hung al in a syng, doubting least giving heed to these, it might incurre a farther damage unto them all, in their severall government, began in loude and most harsh termes to reuile the Emperour, calling him heretick, and subborner of heretickes, uttering against him speech of most dishonour and disgrace. All which the Emperour like himselfe, as he was a most graue and well gouerned Magistrate, knowing by his owne perfections, other mens humors, forbare to answere what he in choller offered, but mildly leaving his presence returned to his Pallace, very high-

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In discontent, yet gouerning his passions, betaking himselfe to his studie, he gan with great wisedome to consider of each accident, and finding his Gouernours offence to touch his reputation, albeit he had done all for his honour and credit, yet the Church carrying a hand ouer all of what estate so ever, knowing by experiance their insolencie, thought it best to reconcile himselfe without farther mouing of trouble, and thereon reseluing sent presently for the Cardinall his Confessor, unto whom he faineth, what heauinesse and grieve he conceiueth at these unkinde dealings of his Gouernours against his holinesse, the Church, and state sheroef, beseeching him, of those loues he alwayes proffered unto him, to finde some meane to accord his holinesse and him, so that a league and peace being obtained, all wrongs might be forgotten, and his Townes men restored to the Church againe. All which his Confessor premised most faithfully to follow. And so taking leauue of the Emperour, spredeth him to his holinesse presence, where forgetting nothing that he had promised, omitting nothing for his better successe, declareth at large the heauinesse of the Emperour, for his abuse offered against his will and knowledge, so earnestly applyeth his sute unto the Pope and his honurable friends, that though with much adoe, yet at last an attonement was graunted, but the Emperour and the Towne fined at ten thousand Florence for the offence; wheron concluded, a peace was made, and vnitie betwene them, and they all restored to the Church.

This brable ended, the Emperour not forgetting his friends Lady, sent his studie for her royll entertainment, for which taking oder with all his Officers, he appointed a day to set forward to her place of abode. Till which time, we leaue them to recount unto you the Brightes troubles, and what chaunceh him in his trouailes.

CHAP. I X.

How the Knight of the holy Crosse, by the trechery of his guide, was robbed of his Horse and Armour, and what happened.



After the departure of the Knight with the Marchants, on the Mourtaines of y Tar-tars, comming to a place called Sylo, where he was to imbarque himselfe, he discharged his guide, and sayled with other company to Misath, where being landed, presented himselfe with the rest of the passengers to the Washaw, who came in person to see the passengers bounde for Jerusalem. This Washaw being of a proud and insolent condition, expected great reverence, which of the common company was given him. But our Cavyler scorning such base fashions, could not soupe in such maner, wherefore the Washawe began in vile speach to taunt him, which he better understanding then the rest, though he had not his language so perfit, in Italian answered his speeches, wherat great exceptions were taken, yet by reason of his safecondit, he durst no quarrell or make stay of him, but amongst the rest, without fauour, had vittalles and a guide: and so mounting his horse departed, leauing the company to the common guard of the souldiers, as is the custome.

The Washawe whom spite had moued to choller against the Knight, understanding he left the ordinary passage, entended to cry quittance with him, by trechery, or as he best might, to fulfill his diuellish minde: And that night armed a hundred of his best Janissaries, whom he hyred to slay him, appoynting them the way to follow the Knight, whom they very hardly pursued, in such maner hastning, that they had sight of him, following by easie pace a long tyme, till night growing vpon them, they caused a naked Mowe to ouertake him, and to keepe him company, appoynting him to take such order with his

guide,

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guide, that where he should rest, to robbe him both of horse and armour: And that done, to give them no notice, whome he shuld be sure to finde by their seuerall Fyres, which they wuld of purpose make. With this lesson the naked rogue left them. And ouertaking the Knight, fell in issing with his guide, with whom he vised such pleasaunt behauiour, that it greatly deligheted the Knight, who made much of him, and willed him to stay by the Fountaine where he pitched his Tent, imparting with him such vittalles as he had: when the Knight had well resreshed himselfe, and had seene his Horse well meated with barley which he brought for him, giving straight charge to the Mowe his guide, to maintaine the Fyer which vsually they kept, for defence of the Lyons and wilde beasts keeping the desarts, he tooke him to rest.

The Mowe having now opportunitie to woake his companion, taking hym from the Tent, beganne so to woake with him, that with howles of kindnesse being his countrey-man, lone of the souldiers where he liued, and hope of great reward, he wonne him to effect whatsoeuer he desired: which done, taking the opportunitie offered, he aduentured first to enter the Tent, and by seuerall pieces tooke the Armour, his shield being vnder his head he durst not touch, and his sword with an arminge lace fastened to his arme, being well as he thought with this, they tooke each of them a Horse, and leauing both y knight and his Page to walke on fote, left them thus in their sounde sleepe.

The trayterous villaines having sped of their busynesse, easeth not poasting from Fyer to Fyer, vntil they had given notice to all the souldiers what they had done, who gathering themselves together, set on to finde the Tent whither they were conducted by the guides and the other slave, his companion in this practise. But he that in many perilles had deliuered our braue and endauoured Knight, preserueth him still for his Countries honour, as you shall note.

For the villaines gone, and heauy slumber oppressing him, he fell into a sound sleep, in which he dreamed, and in his dream

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seened perfily to see an haost of men, environ a schwe peaceable trauailers, which he of mere deuotion sought to rescue: in whih drearie awaking, and bustling himselfe, as to helpe these distressed, sought for his armour, being neither fast a stape nor throughly awaked: which ensuing, he calleth his Page, and both went to seeke their horses which were likewise gone, leauing them none but the Alle and Hale which carrieth theyr vittailles.

This chaunce happening, he could not imagine what to do, nor where to seeke those miscreants which so had rebbed him, yec searcheth he here and there, crying and calling for them, which were too farre off to heare him: So long they followed seeking those villaines, that they might hear the noyse of many horses, which trouping made great spedde towards the place where they kept.

Attentively listned the knight, to note if he could here any voyce, and bnsily bethought him what was best to do in this extreme, beleueng verily that he was betrayed yet making no semblant thereof, caused the Page to bring from out his tent a case of Pistollis with his powder and shotte, which comonly the Page carryed, with those he charged the boye, if occasion serued, to do his best seruice, and to give him that helpe he could, which faithfully he promised to accomplish.

Scarsly had they determined what to do, but they might discry the two Mores gallopping on their horses, which by their white Algolines they perfily did knowe, leading the others which closely followed them, making all the haste they could.

This fight made him verily beleuue that those villaines had betrayed him, and that those Horsemen were they which intended to worke him mischiefe, for whome he purposeth to prouide, seeking his best aduaantage to continue the fighte, sheltering himselfe close to a shrubbed Olive Tre, which grewe thereby, distant from his Tent a furlong or thereabout, by which they must needs pass that came to seeke him.

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The Mores appoaching, making readie to take them first, which were the Authours of this stratageme, the Page with a Pistolle killed the one, and the other whiche was his guide, with his Curtiler hee unhoarsed, doyng him no other harme. But perceiving who hee was, thought to saue him alial, to bee a guide for him, if hee escaped out of those Mountaines, so binding him hande and foote, hee put a gagge in his mouth, and cast him from him: which done, making readie to entertaine the rest, hee spedde to his chesen Tre: where long hee had not stayed, but the others gallopping came as swiftly as they could, where finding the two Mores without men, made them stande, but to their cost, for his Pistollis being prouided, by them the foremost two lost their lynes. Which done, hee armed himselfe to defence, euer annoying them as hee sawe his most aduaantage, whilst the Page with his Pistollis did his part, payng surely all those that hee made offer to hitte. A hardie brytle and daungerous fight entred this Noble English Knight, which for all their great multitudes was not dismayed at all, but in the middest of his distresse, to the encouragement of his poore Page, cryed still Lancaster, Saint George for England, never making any shewe of discouragement, albeit his woundes were many, which bled mosse greuously, yet stode hee, to the great encouragement of them all, bryuely and joyfully encouraging himselfe with hope of theyr shamefull downe-falles. In which ayded by him whome hee zealously serued, hee brought to confusion, sometimes assayling, sometimes defending, as hee best could finde opportunitie, and greatest aduaantage, euer speeding one or other, so that hee never stroke in vain.

Continuing his dole with such a kinde of devotion, that the better part of their Army beeing slaine, and the moste of the rest lying grouelling for life, amongst them, he espied one of the verye principallest having on his Armeur,

who

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who being none of the best men, seeing the others haue such ill successe, was flying as fast as he could, but the Knight perceiving him, got him to horse, and so earnestly followed him, that to his great cost he overtoke him, in ill time, as he might well witnesse: so, with such authoritie he arrested this runaway, that he had no leisure to aske at whose lute, but being an execution, pawned his life for satisfaction.

This companion having his pasport to the great duell, signed and sealed by the hand of a noble English Knight, he armed him, and passing backe amongst the rest, payde them more then he owed, by many a Turkes life.

By this time the day gaue him faire light, so that he might well see his worke, wherfore such as could make shift for themselves, seeing the ill successe their fellowes had, stood not on any more poynts of manhood then was fit they should, but without taking leaue, made what hast they could for their safetie.

The noble Edward seeing his companions gone, and none left able to make any resistance, went to suruay them, which were all goodly fellowes, and well appointed after their fashion, amongst which, he found one Spanyard, who was newly taken in Turky, and turnde Turke: this fellowe had some knowledge of y Knight, and was abiding in Gebralare, whens by the Turkes he was betrayed to the Gouvernour. And in his company two Easterlings which had bene men of value and god worth, who hearing the Spanyard crave for pittie at his handes, having some hope to escape with life, cryed out unto him, beseeching him to heare them speake, who being of kinde and noble condition, commandede them to say what they wold he wold heare them.

This comfort obtained, the Easterling bewayling their ill fortunes, which through the crueltie of the Turkes, were compeld to forsake their Sauour, allured thereunto oft by threatening, and menas'd with grecous torment, and oft with promise of large possessions, so that in the ende to their great sorrow and more shame of themselves, they repented their feloie and great sinne committed against God, beseeching the knight

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to haue mercie vpon them, who being now in his hand, might either deliuer them by death from that King of conscience, which continually grawed as the hungry Erger on his prey, or graunting them life, accept them as his slaves, so that they might thorow a repentant minde, obtaine the fauour of God, whom se highly they had offended.

With this pitfull suit, the Knight whose heart was alwaies inclined to mercie (moued with remorse of saving their soules, whome nane but he that gaue them life could pardon) forgave them thair death, and the Spanyard also, and with the helpe of the Page, carried them into his lodging, where he plaid the Surgeon, binding and dressing theyre woundes: which done, with such Balmes and syntimens of rare worth, hee trimmed his owne greeves, gaing God thankes for his safetie in those extremes, and freeing him from those daungers, for the easse and recure of al which, hee made his stay there, some thre or fourre dayes, releasing the Moore which lay bound, who served to dresse theyre horses, on whose examination, and the Easterlings, he had knowledge, that his intended euill proceeded from the Walshaw, who hyued the Jenelaries of purpose to slay him, for whom God continually fought.

CHAP. X.

How the Knight of the Crosse arriuing at Ioppa, through the treason of those that fled, was there imprisioned.



Hev this most famous Knight, and mynour of honour, had repased himselfe with those wounded people, some fourre dayes, and had gotten strength to traualle, he puruayed him for his journey, and set forward as his way lay to Ioppa. To this place, some of the Jenelaries which escaped from the fight, was come before, laying watch there, as also at Rama, and other places, for stay of

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the Knight in his passage. At this towne, the General no sooner arrived, but by those tokenes was given, he was well knowne, and had entertainment by the Bashaw, which late in the gate daylie, of purpose to enteraunce such trauailers as came.

When the Knight had declared what he was, and his occasion of trauaile, doing all customes that to the place appertained, delivering his wth awpons, with which, no man being a straunger, is suffer^{ed} to enter, hauing him naked, and at aduantage with nothing to defend himselfe, or offend them, the Bashaw suffered him to enter the Towne, appointing his lodging as the custome is to do. But before he recovered the place, an vngly monster of men, with a face as grieslie as a Ware, came unto him, accompanied with a traine of rakeshames, which attended him, all weaponed: and laying violent hands vpon him, calling and reviling him at his pleasure, commanding him to go with him.

The knight and his compaine that saw this extremite and wrong offered him, being now in such a place, where it was vnteleste to resist them, hoping the best, yielded himselfe unto they^r mercies, who caried him to a most vilde and stinking pris^o where the roome was scarshy able to lode two dogs, hauing nothing but the bare earth to lode on, neither could he be suffered to haue any, his trunkes, bedding, and such money and goods as he had, they confiscated to the Bashawes vse, who would not depart with one spicere of his dutie.

The knight in safetie, th^e y^e lade hands on the page, wh^e ha^ring a proper yong man, they sought to haue him a Turke: But he who scorned his life, in regard of Gods fauour and loue, on which he builded, resisted all their deuises, sometimes speaking fayre, and other times, daring them to do what they durst, respecting nothing what they could deuise to do him harme, such was his constancie and firme hope in God.

The Spaniards and the two Easterlings, were fayne to sticke still to their olde consorts for fauour, whome they won with such gentle speches, to fauour the knight, that they obtained leaue to bring him his vydans, which was so god as any

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any they could get for their monies, vuer cheiring him in his extremities, vowing themselves his, so assured, that their lynes should be offered for their safetie, which comfort hee take so kindly, as if they had done him all the god hee could himselfe desire, promising a good requitall, if God euer released him of those troubles.

Thus leue we the noble Edward in his imp^{ri}sonment, for a time: the Page to the fauour of the Bashaw, and the Easterlings employing all their best power for his deliueraunce, to let you heare of the lade Valla, & her compaine, what hapned th^e.

CHAP. XI.

Howe the Emperour with all his traine, set forwardes from Rome, to conduct the Ladie Valla vnto Rome.



He Empero^r hating made the atonement with the Pope for his people, omitted no time for purveying all thinges, which might any wayes tend to his honour, or please his most noble friends ladie, whom in his absence he tooke a princely care of, which ordained as he could best devise, he dispatched two noble men of his Court, with great presents unto her, to signifie his comming, which tooke the easier iourney, his age requiring it, commanding those nobles to see each thing with such honour to be furnished, as if himselfe were present. With this charge the Nobles departed, desirous to see the Ladie, of wh^e for her rare vertues, and most excellent graces was so much spokende, as also for her Lordes sake, whose followers in the Empero^rs wars they sometimes were, delaieth no time for performance of what they intended: so as in very shott time they arrived at Cenita Vecha, & were suddenly brought to the ladies presence, vnto wh^e doing all the reverence they could, or as their countries use is, they declared the great care of the Empero^r for her, the ioy he conciuied of

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her safetie and godd arraial in his confiues, and how much he desired the presence of her Lord and husband, whose welfare he wished as his own, and whose companie he more desired, then all the Princes of the world. This said, and the Lady returning heartie thanks for those Princeley fauours, as also for her hono- rable presence, the nobles desirous to be certified of y knyghts safetie, beganne to question with her of many sundry matters, who were with such wisedome and honourable courtesie answere, that they admired her, giving her the praye of all the Ladies that ever they had seen.

The nobles delighting in her companie, never were satisfied with her speech, but as tides contentient serued, with much pleasant parley and speech of importance, as occasio was ministered, they passed the tyme two or three daisies. After which tyme, the Lady, who had often felt such fits as to yong women are incident, though vnaccustomed with those passions, and being acquainted with none but her Alynda, which had as small skill in such causes as her selfe, she put that off often with godd countenaunce, which beganne now to increase so on her, that shee could no longer hide: all which shee attributed to her trauaile, and such other cares as shee endured, that to be assurid of her disease, and to sieke release for her, beeing in verie weake case, they acquainted the Physician of the cardinall with her water, who by all his skill, found the cause no other, but breeding child, for which having a carefull regard (commanded stricktly unto it by his Lord) he prescribbed order of diet and government for her, which he gaue with great charge vnto Alynda, to execute. In this carefull heauiness of the Ladies sicknesse, a messenger arrived at the pallace, which brought tidings of the Emperors comming, who was within halfe a dayes iourney, and meant God willing to lye with them that night. At hearing of which, a great stir began in the citie, making all the preparation for his most honoorable entertainment. The Cardinal with al his crew mounting themselves, with all the nobles and burgesses of the Citie, in god and most commendable order, issued the Citie to meeke him, at whose comming, such a general ioy was seen in

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cuerie place, as of long tyme had not bene the like.

What kind and louing embaying was betwene the Cardinall & him, the Bishops, Abots, and all the rest, with shewes of loue and dutie, and how honourably the same was requited, I omit, bringing him to the pallace gate; his long desired place to be: where the Lady Valia with her Alynda, and all the Ladies of the nobilitie and honour met him, vnto whome Valia prostrating her selfe on her knies, besought his excellent highnesse, to accept the humble seruice of her lord and husband, who reasked his in all dutie, beseeching his imperiall maiestie to pardon his negligencie, and lese of her Lords letters by which she was comynded vnto his fauourable custodie, not omitting each particular action, which chanced her and her companie, with the cause of their losse, of all which she intreated his maiestie to enquire of those marchants, and that reverent father the Friar, to what charge she was committed by her Lord.

The Emperour full of maiestie and honour, making great shewes of heartie welcome to her and her people, most honourably entertraied them, giving those Ladies and nobles of his countrey gracious thankes, in honouring him so much as they had done, in entertraing this welcome Lady to his countrey. These welcomes of each side given, the tyme vntill supper was ready, they pleasantly spent in discoursing of severall matters, the most part tending to the honour and high commendations of the knight of the Holy Crofse, of whose valour, courtesie, and resolution, they all affirmed none could suffitently speake. At hearing of which, suppose you Ladies and women of what esteeme soever, that hane men of person, valour, and honour, endowed with many god parts, as this noble Edward, if Valia were proud yea or no, you are made judges of her thoughts, which by your owne thoughts can best censure of hers, if she be pronde, it is not her fault, for by him his countries honour throughe the world is increased.

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CHAP. XII.

How the Emperour taking care for the Ladie his charge, after great honour done vnto her, set forwards to Rome.


He Emperour whose honourable thoughts was most in giving due honour vnto the Ladie, was ioyfull in her presence, but more ioyfull in that she was with child, which he hoped should haue his beginning in the world in his dominions, for whom as for the Ladie he was not a little carefull, taking an especiall charge on himself, for her easie conuay to Rome, whither after some stay made, as well for the easse of his aged body, as for dispatch of such busynesse the lady had then in hand, when by his excellent bountie at her entercission, the Marchants for their goods lost, were satisfied, and those Christian prisoners with good rewards set free, and all things sorted to such happie event as she desired, euerie one content, and the Emperour best pleased in his charge, hearing by generall report, her most godly behauiour, and her resolute courage, in their and her owne defence, louingly embracing her, he sayth: welcome the flower of womanhood, to thine owne Empire, where thou shalt not live to be commaunded, but to command: whatsoeuer I possesse, in all places where I haue any command: therfore honourable Ladie, set seare and care apart, and frolickie it with those whose care is now for you and your welfare.

For whose gracious offers, Vallia rendered her most hearty thankes, beseeching God to endue her Lord with life, and safe returne to Rome, that hee might acknowledge the like.

This finished, the Emperour commaunded to prepare for their iourney, which was in all readinesse against the next morning, when with all the honour might be shewen, shee was

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Was accompanied, with all the estates of the countrey, both Ladycs and others: at whose departing the citie, great gifts were presented vnto her, which shee most thankfully accepted, and the Emperour for her sake most honourably and bountifully requited.

Thus leaing the citie of old Rome, by verie easie iourneyes they proceeded, passing the way with all deuises might be procur'd, to beguile the weariness of the iourney, as hauing, hunting, and other pastimes and pleasing discourses, in which, the Emperour desirous to knowe of what countrey shee was, so that shee spake his owne language so perfectly, required it at her hande as an especiall fauour, which Vallia with great reuerence and courtesie awnswered, discoursing brefely vnto him the long and heartie affliction shee boare him, beeing but a stranger, and how shee left her fathers court, with her woman then attending on her, disguised both in mans attire, not omitting his deliverance frō the Spanish imprisonement, with all their proceedings, vntill their marriage. Which wonderfull discourse the Emperour was never wearied to heare: when shee had all finished, with such heartie loue and more zealous affection, if more might be, kissing her tender cheeke, which he bedewed with his teares, proceeding from the entire ioy of his most honorable hart, he saith. Thee lamp of honor, wonder of y earth, how may the most deserued praises be eternized as they merit: my noble friend in so honourable a childe, and thy country thise happie is renoumed wherein thou hadst thy being: blessed be y loynes from whence thoir procedest, & a world of happiness betide thosse, whose tender paps gaue thee nourishment. Honorable friend duke Philip, happy father, eternally shal thy name liue, in this gracious and noble childe: oh Philip. ioy of the louing friends and kin, didst thou know thy daughter, whom long sithence it may be, thou reckonest axong the dead, where living and so neare thee, what ioy would it bring thy drooping aged heart: He thinkes I see the sprites how they would shew, to heare thy Vallia liue, which thou shalt know, with such spedde as I best may, or can giue thee notice thereof.

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if you gracious Ladie saye a chaire, to what I intend. Vallia
leaving the toy of the Empereur, for her fathers god, could not
forbeare shedding teares at his kind offers: which passing o-
uer as he best could, prostrating her selfe, she in all humblenes,
besought his Maiestie, to thinkie he lwe much she had incurred
her fathers high displeasure, so to traue him; without giving
any notice of her departure to any one, whiche she doubted
would never be recovered without his speciall lurt, which if by
his most honourable meanes she did obtaine, he wch she shulde
holde her selfe blessed of God, and honoured of his highnesse,
modestie caused her comande: bewyng by the honour of her
husbands name, that all the fauour he could do her, was not,
neither could it be so acceptable vnto her as this.

The Emperour noting her heauinesse for her fathers
displeasure, comforted her all he might, assuring her on his
honor, to recover what she required. And taking for pen, yrike,
and paper, wrote as followeth:

To the most gracious and noble Prince Philip, Duke of
Genoway, and Naples, health, and
continall happynesse.

Thise honoured Duke, a longing desire hath moued
vs oftentimes, since our last being togithers, to see your
excellencie; but the consideration of your age and
imbecilitie, vameete for trouaile, hath made vs forbeare
to trouble you, vntil this instant, a cause of importance to our
joy, and your great comfort happily chauenging, (at least) if
thy fathery loue be such, to see thy supposed lost childe, the
Princesse Vallia, of whom we haue certayne tidings, shee is
in health and safetie, for whose pardon we haue undertaken
to become a soliciter, and hope of successe in our suite: the
offence beeing the more pardonable, in that it was af-
fection, and entire loue of that noble Gentleman, the
knight of the holie Crosse your ioldier, and our long friend,
whose wife, to thy comfort, and honour of your house she is,

There

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Therefore, if thou reioyce in her happinesse; as thy age, and
abilitie will giue leaue, come vnto vs, who in person, will
accompany you to her presence, who as we here, groeth
with the paines of another, as our phisitions enforme vs. And
so expecting what we desire from you, we bid you heartlie
farewell. At our imperial court, signed with our royal signet.

Augustus Magnus.

These letters written, he read the contents vnto the Ladie
Vallia, who praying for his long life, she heartily thanked him
for his gracious fauour and care of her, which done, & she there
with well pleased, he signed and subscribed the same. Then cal-
ling one of his Nobles, which was graue, and of honourable
account, he deliuered the same, with especiall charge, for the
speedie conuay thereof, and secret consealeing of the Ladie.
Whiche done (commending him to his iourney, and god per-
formance of his charge) hee bid him farewell, whom we leauis
to his trouaile, and the Emperour and the Ladie, vnto they
pleasure, vntill her time of deliuerance, of which you shall here,
as soone as the midwife hath done her office.

C H A P. XIII.

How the Knight of the Crosse, by the industrie of the two
easterlings and the page was freed from prison, and what
chanced to them.



He Noble Edward clored with his mis-
haps, and harsh vsage in his imprisonment,
thought every moneth a yeare, and eueris
minute a moneth, vntil he was at libertie.
Diter times persuading himselfe to great
hazard in fraying him from that captiuitie:
And then by intreatie of these, one whose
trust he relied his determinations ceased,

G

attending

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attending his pleasure, which never left him without company, his poore followers doong for him what they coule. But as long lookes for, comes at last, so the tyme of his deliuerie drawing nere, and euerie thing effected securely, his guides by whome hee was to be ruled, pretending a tourney to Sylo, obtained his horse and armour of the bashaw, for a present to their Bashaw, from whence they came, which closely they conuained away out of the citie, to a place of searcetie, which they in their idle walke had founde, leaving the Page in his lodgynge, which was in a Jewes house verie secret. So the Page they ordained Turkish attire, and hym furnished very orderly, with a counterfeit mustach, the better to disguise hym for beeing knowne, having another for the knight, vnto whom before their going they had imparted their devise, which was to slay his keeper that euening, when he came to bring hym water, and in his apparrell to escape, appoynting hym a place without the Citie, where they with the Page would tarrie his comming. This done, first conuaying the page in his attire, which escaped the watch without suspect: they sought the gaylour, of whiche pre-tending to take a solemine farewell, they carryed hym to a Wanians, a place where the Christian Captiues were kept, plying hym so with Aqua vita, or as they call it Rakcaye, that hee forgot himselfe, that with kindnes and shewes of loue, they procured hym to the prison, to take their leaue of þ knight, wherein the keeper was no sooner entred, but the Eastelings thinking that the fittest tyme, gaue hym þ word to make hym away, whilste they kept sur guarda for his safetie. By whose dñe being ruled, the Gaylor ended his life, with a weapen whiche they gaue hym: which done, long stood not our knight attyng himselfe in Cerberus apparrell, whobeing furnished, and disguised with a counterfeit beard, hee aduentured thow the gate all alone, faining a maner of stumbling and reeling in the gate, and passid the ward, who seeing hym in that manner dreid, cryed cut Kurach, which is to say drunken. This done, his companiens seeing all well effectid, made no long stay, but presently solicuith, and brought hym vnto the

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caue, where the Page with the Spaniard and Moore stayed: they presently mounted themselves, and away they go, prayng God for his deliuerance. The halfe was made, is not to be forgotten, who never ceased galloping vntill they came farre without daunger of the Colone, where night ouertaking them, they found place fit for their purpose, where they alighting, gaue God prayse, and refreshed themselves awhile. Here the knight armed hymselfe with his armour, girding his sword of great woorth close to his side, which done, they againe mounted themselves, and taking a course as they thought, farre from sight of any theyz olde acquaintance, or keeping any readie way for feare of intercepting, they trauailed by ayme. Two dayes, and somewhat more weare spent, since their comming from Ioppa, whan they met with a Moore, borne neare Algeere, in Barbarie, who comming from Myca (the place wher their Prophet Mahomet was buried) was that day spoyled by a rout of Arabian theues, which kept those moutains. Of those spoyling people, the Moore warnid the knight and his company who were all dismayde at his tydings: yet by the most noble knight comforted, relying on his valour, more then theyz owne manhood, they proceeded, trauailing all that day, yet never heard any newes of them. The next morning, the knight having taken some extraordinarie sleep, it was long before they putte forward, when they had not ridden by theyz account one league, but they espied a crewe of horsemen which were so farre from them, on the side of a huge mountaine, as they coulde well desearne. This sight caused the companie to doubt of some ensuing evill, whiche the knight perceiving, againe encouraged them, so comforting those his companiens with his speeches, that they cast al feare apart, to take part with hym that was not to be daured with euerie naked bug. In this mind continuing, these saint hearts looking about them often in their trauaille (for feare they shuld be backed) they espied another rout, which had them in chasse, acquainting the knight withal, of whō he took little care, but comanded them

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to holde on their way easilly, that if they followed them, they
might ouertake them, before the foremost could come to helpe
them.

Long had they not ridden, following the knights directions,
but one of the gallants that pursued them, was come forward
with them, who viewing their strength, which he supposed was
far to weake to encounter them, began in scolding termes to
scour them, especially the knight which he saw armed.

Edward, which brooked all offences unwittingly committed,
and curteously reconciled, seeing the peremptorie doings of this
base gromme, drawing neare unto him, said. Base fugitive, who
was thy schoolmaister that learned thee no rōre god: here after
when thou chancest to meet strangers, salute them with more
curtesie. And therewithall lifting vp his Battelare, gaue him so
sound a blow on the head, as the brains started about his horse
necke. And he having no power to sit, forsoke his horse, falling
dead vnder his feet. His compaine which saw him fall, and had
noted the blow he received, gan all at once to assaile the knight,
hending their launces vpon his breast, which like a man of
power, and policie, he cunningly awarded, and drawing his
curtelap, which before he had bathed in the luke warme gore of
many thosse hehounds, he so behaued himself, that in few hours
he left not many of them to stand: but leauing their horses mai-
sterlesse, exchanged such as they best fancied, and left the rest to
their owne libertie. The other compaine, which from the top of
the mountain had seene the feats of Armes done by the knight,
thinking to rescue thosse that lived, and to reuenge thosse that
were slaine, came amaine vpon them, sparing not their horse
lives from the spurs, to learne them a swifter pace, (but in ill
time) to scorne came they to the after reckoning: for they were
faine to pay the holt, who gaue them such entretainment, as
they had never power to depart from him, so honestly did this
honneur of knighthood deale with them, whom he found so cruel
without cause offered them. In this compaine there were fourre
Portugall marchants, whose Camels these villaines had spoy-
led, taking their gods, and kept them captiue, intendyng to sell
them

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them as slauces, to the first caualiers of that country. These
Marchants being vnder the charge of their horse keepers, left
far off, seeing the ill successe of the robbers, made way for them-
selves, recovering such weapons as the slauces had, from whō
being cleare, they mainly followed the knight, crying vnto him
for succor, and earnestly beseeching his fauor, which the knight
perceyng, caused the rest to stay, spurring his horse to meete
them, to give them rescus from the slauces that pursued them,
from whom they fled with all the hast they could make, but
with too slow speed, for some of them were faine to stay behinde
their legs being too weake to carrie theyz bodies. The knight
returning from spoile of thosse slauces, enquired of the marchants
of whence they were, they answered of Portugall, and were
bound for traffique, with an hundred Camels laden with spice
and silke for Constantinople, of all which they had beene spoy-
led by these villaines, of which fraternitie, there was as many
more as he had slaine. The knight which saw the heauie cour-
tenance of the poore Marchants, could not forbeare to pitte
them, & commanded them to horse themselves, vpon the best of
theirs which he had slaine, which done, taking care for their re-
leefe of vittailes, for their horses, and for themselues, they were
conducted to the place, where the store of thosse theues lay,
where they furnished themselues with such viands as they li-
ued with. And after taking choysse of all maner of furniture,
money, spice, and iuelis, so much as they pleased, they fired the
rest, and departed, holding theyz journey by the Portugals di-
rections, who were verie well acquainted in thosse mountaines,
applying still to recover the holy Cittie of Ierusalem, never da-
ring to enter any towne or place of force, as you shall hereafter
understand.

CHAP. XIII.

How the Bashaw of Ioppa missing his prisoner, pursued him, and how he escaped.



Wth the covetous Bashaw, which had the custodie of this honourable knight, was perswaded by the Gasterlings his friends, that the Bashaw of Silo, would give for his prisoner, tenne hundred thousand Duckats. In hope of which, at their earnest suites he kept him aliuie, sending his horse, armour, and furniture by them, unto their Bashaw for a present (as before you haue heard) but when he missed the Knight, the Page, and those Runagates, he was like in choler to haue slaine himselfe, by desperation to send his soule to the Diuell before his tune, from which extremitie, no perswasion of his best and dearest friendes, might any way preuaile, but that in a furie he would mischiefe himselfe, saing that by his too much trust, he was so deceived of a prisoner, and a beffellow of so much worth, as the Knight and his Page, whom he intended to yield to his pleasure.

The Bashaw which fared in such franticke maner, be thinking him of all the Diuelish practises could bee intended, called to minde an auncient Pigromancer, which kept in the Mountaines betwene Ioppa and Rama, in the way to Ierusalem. By this god fellow he thought to be reuenged, what soever it cost him, and so comforting himselfe in that hope, hee ceaseth his raging furie, dispatching two of his best approued friendes in search of this diuelish practiser, who vised such diligence in their busynesse, that in shott time they found him, in whom this Bashaw reposed his whole confidence for reuenge.

This diuell incarnate, they intreated with all curtesie, and

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best pleasing speeches they could stame, to go with them to Ioppa, to the Bashaw, promising great summes of golde for his paine. But all th^re intreaties or perswasions preuailed nothing with him: if the Bashaw haue ought with him to do, he must be messenger himself, or surcease his busynesse: which peremptorie course of this Archdiuell, vnto the Bashaw made knowne by his friends, though he were in minde grieved at his deuid, yet he wisely considered, how baught he shold spend his time in seeking reuenge on him. Wherefore, without any further trouble (accompanied with a garrison of Teneclaries, and his two friends for his guides) he set forward from Ioppa, and in time conuenient, came before the Caue, where the Pigromancer kept, who knowing of his coming, thought to be somewhat pleasant with him, to trie his manhood. Wh^e the Bashaw had a while attended, & saw none stirring vnto wh^o to speake, he commaned a scouldier to knocke: wh^{ch} done, the Cunurer transformed into the likenesse of a monstreus diuell, breathing flames of fire from his nostrils, came out vnto th^e, whose vgly shape caused them all to such feare, that they wished th^eslues again in Ioppa, and were ready to take their hailes to be gone. But seeing their timorousnesse, hee tooke another way from them, and inuisibly returned into his caue.

Once againe making triall what was in them, tooke on him the forme of a little goate, thinking they woulde bee doing therewith, if any occasion shold be offered them. To prevent therefore what danger in this disguise might issue, he annoyned his head and body with an oyntment, wh^{ch} so hardened his skin, that no weapon wou'd pearce it.

This done, he issued againe amongst them, wh^{ch} durst not knocke anie more. And approaching neare the Bashaw himselfe, began furiously to fling fire vpon him: wh^{ch} his compaine seeing, armed them to his defence, wh^{ch} the supped goate euer assailed with fire, sometime flinging on him so furiously, as hee woulde teare him in peices, manie times clawing him, that he enforced him to runne away, leauing his message to do so, wh^{ch} he came.

This

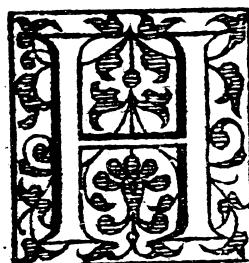
This conurer when he had plaide his part with him, and saw that he would be gone, thought to speake with him, to see how he liked his entertainment, and shitting him to his weareing apparrell, met him on the way, as if he had no knowledge of his being there.

The Bashaw his kinsmen which did know him well, when first they had sight of him shewed the Bashaw, who comming towards him, after the countrey fashion saluted him, and a lighting from his hōse, brefely tolde him the cause of his comming, beseeching his fauour and helpe for recouerie of the lost knight, for which he promised to reward him to his content.

The sorcerer which saw the enuie of the Bashaw in hope of gaine, promised him to do what art could, for accomplishing his will, craving respit of tyme four or five dayes, that hee might finde what way he tooke, which said, and they both therupon agreeing, they take leaue each of other, whom to their diuellish practise we leaue, returning to the Ladie Vallia.

CHAP. XV.

How the Emperors message being done to the duke of Genoway, for verie ioy of his daughters life he dieth, and what else chanceith.



Ere Gentles the storie sheweth vs of the Emperours late arriuall in Rom, where the many courtesies offered to the Ladie was such (as well for her owne sake, being daughter and haire to the noble Duke of Genoway, as for the leue and entire affection of the renowned knight of the Crosse, her honourable and beloved husband) that the Emperour thought himselfe greatly bound unto all his nobles and communaltie, and highly contented the ladie his charge, for whose pleasure and content so much cost was employed. The recounting of each particular I omit,

leaving

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leaving the Ladie to the solitarie thoughts of her best beloued Lord, and her gracious father the Duke, from whom the Emperour expected hourely the retурne of the noble man, his ambassadour, who being as carefull of the charge to him committed, spared not his hard and diligent traual, night nor day, vntill he recovered the end of his long wished for iourney: which finished and come to the Emperours presence, prostrating him selfe on his knee, was most graciously welcomed of the Emperour, whom he questioneth of the Dukes health, and welfare of his state. The noble man which imagined how heauie the newes he had to report, would be to his highnesse, and all the hearers, humbly besought the Emperour to heare in secret what he has to deliuer, which the Emperour graunted, withdrawinge himselfe of purpose, which done, he saith.

Tell me (noble friend) what chance hath befallen the in this trauell of thine, and how fareth our honozable friend the duke. Gracious liege, and my deare Lord, answered this noble gentleman, to keepe from your highnesse, what you must know in tyme, though with a heart full fraught with griefe, it cumbrith me greatly, to become the heauie messenger of such tragick newes. Know (most excellent Prince) the duke hath left this life, to seeke the ioyes of the heauenly Hierarchie. The Emperour whose thoughts were surprised with hearinnesse, hearing his long deferred answere to his questions, breaching out many sighes at the deliuerie of the same, with sighes and bitter teares (after he had a while lamented, with many mournfull cries, and pitifull shreikes, the Dukes death) he straightly charged the noble man, to deliuer unto him the tyme of his departure from this world, and the cause: whether of any old griefe, or suddains action: commanding him (all dread set a part) to tell the truth:

The noble man (whose heauie heart by his outward sorowes might well appearre, thought hee could well haue forborne the reuealing thereof, yet not daring through silence, to incurre his highnesse displeasure he sayth. Most gracious soveraigne thus, and in this maner, fared it with the duke at my

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first ayrrall at his princely Court, who frolickke with the best, joyfull and pleasant to heare of your Matessies health, as his loue might well appere, by those welcomes I received from him, and his Nobles, by his command, of whom I was so intartained, as well might beseeme a state of great account and maiestie, reverencing your highnesse, in those honours gone me. But too soone (dread and excellent Emperour) was the gleaming joyes of this courtly nobilitie overhadewed, with myns of direfull sorrow, chancang by the dukes suddaine death, who as it is supposed by his people, most in account with him, euer loyed at your excellent kynd lydinges of his supposed lost child, surprised with a symphacie of exceeding gladnesse, left his honorabile life, to the great heauynesse of his subiects, as wel his Nobles as Commons, who with most bittere and grieuous complaints, spende their time in such continuall lamentation, as might moue the heart most hardest, with teares, to accompanie them.

The Nobles for the comfort of their Duke, with whome they were verie where (only there reverend ducie reserved) companions in all exercises. The Commons hee oppressed not: the wronged, he by lawe willie restored to right: the widow and fatherlesse, hee carefully provided for: the maimed, sondour, most bountifullly maintained. In brieue, (most excellent, and my gracious soueraigne) there is no state, no subiect, or any vnder his government, which hath not great cause to imploye the loue of this god Duke.

This dolefull discourse he finished with so deepe a sigh, as pressed teares from his euer-grieved heart, which restraining his tongue, caused him to bee silent, and mooued the Emperour at his sorrow to shedde manie teares, which being suddainlie ouerpast, the grieuing and most gracious Emperour, raying the people man from the ground, louingly embrasing him, saide.

A tale of sorewe, and much griefe hast thou deliuered, which moued my heart to lament, the death of such a mest honourable Prince, and to grieue for these subiects, whose leue is

to

Knight of the holy C

so great. But tell mee, who governeth howe affect they the returne of the Prince. Lord (answering this sorrowfull Noble generally consent, is in the rule of Don: Noble Gentleman, of graue countenaunce, and most noble enclined, who so portunate suite of the subiects of all estatly soote carrieth himselfe: so that by his late dead, is in justice and all other good bryde, little mising, to be equall onelie, th acknowledged: so that the happinesse more, in so prouident a gouernour. Th falle with your highnesse, and all other such like, which prysed honour, and weale, before their owne courteous am where lawes are not solde for: Lords pleynpt Justices, where through the pauncheis vndrie, and the stais in God honoured; and the Prince truly by blessings be, there is leue of Subiects, their princes. Well hast thou sayd (quyn in thy speech hast comforted my spirit) course the honours of this noble Court your euer for thy honorablie report: committed the secrecie of his answer great wisedome, loath that ths suddain way discomforst the Ladie, whose wele owne god. And so betaking the Emperour for the Ladie sake, and the noble e amongst his friends, hee returne again who is now in the way to the holy Cittie

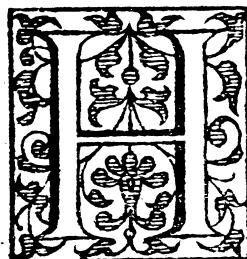
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Knight of the holy Crosse.

leaving the Ladie to the solitarie thoughts of her best beloved Lord, and her gracious father the Duke, from whom the Emperour expected hourely the returne of the noble man, his ambaſſadour, who being as carefull of the charge to him committed, spareth not his hard and diligent traual, night nor day, vntill he recovered the end of his long wished for iourney: which finished and come to the Emperours presence, prostrating him selfe on his knee, was most graciously welcomed of the Emperour, whom he questioneth of the Dukes health, and welfare of his state. The noble man which imagined how heauie the newes he had to report, would be to his highnesse, and all the hearers, humbly besought the Emperour to heare in secret what he had to deliuer, which the Emperour graunted, withdrawing himselfe of purpose, which done, he saith.

Tell me (noble friend) what chance hath befallen theſe in this trauell of thine, and how fareth our honorabls friend the duke. Gracious liege, and my deare Lord, answered this noble gentleman, to keepe from your highnesse, what you must know in tyme, though with a heart full fraught with grieſe, it cumbereth me greatly, to become the heauie messenger of ſuch tragicke newes. Know (moſt exellent Prince) the duke hath left this life, to ſeke the ioyes of the heauenly Hierarchie. The Emperour whose thoughts were ſurprized with heauinesſe, hearing his long deferred anſWERE to his questions, breathing out manie ſighes at the deliuerie of the ſame, with ſighes and bitter teares (after he had a while lamented, with many mournefull cries, and pitifull ſhreakes, the Dukes deaſh) he ſtraiſhly chargeth the noble man, to deliuer unto him the tyme of his departure from this world, and the cauſe: whether of any old grieſe, or ſuddaine action: commanding him (all dread ſet a part) to tell the truthe.

The noble man (whose heauie heart by his outward ſorrows might well appeare, thought hee could well haue ſorne the revealing thereof, yet not daring through ſilence, to incurre his highnesſe displeaſure he ſayth. Most gracious ſuertaigne: thus, and in this maner, fared it with the duke at my

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first ayrrall at his princely Court, who frolliche with the best, ioyfull and pleasant to heare of your Majesties health, as his loue might well appere, by these welcomes I received from him, and his Nobles, by his command, of whom I was so entertained, as well might beseeme a state of great account and maiestie, reverencing your highnesse, in those honours done me. But to sone (fread and excellent Imperour) was the gleaming toxys of this courtly nobilitie overhadewed, with mylcs of direfull sorow, chancing by the dukes sudaine death, who as it is supposed by his people, most in account with him, euer loyed at your excellent kynd tyngys of his supposed lost child, surprised with a symphacie of exceeding gladnusse, left his honorable life, to the great heauynesse of his subiects, as wel his Nobles as Commons, who with most bitter and grieuous complaints, spende their tyme in such continuall lamentation, as might moue the heart nesci hardest, with teares, to accompane them.

The Nobles, for the comfort of their Duke, with whome they were cuerie where (only here reuerend duetie reserved) companions in all exercises. The Commons he oppressed not: the wronged, he by law iustly restored to right: the widow and fatherlesse, hee carefully provided for: the maimed boyldeur, most bountifullly maintained. In bries, (most excellent, and my gracious soueraigne) there is no state, no subiect, or any vnder his government, which hath not great cause to imploye the losse of this god Duke.

This dolefull discouerse he finished with so depe a sigh, as pressed teares from his ouer-griued heart, which restraining his tongue, caused him to bee silent, and moued the Imperour at his sorow to shede manys teares, which being suddeinly overpast, the grieuing and most gracious Imperour, rayzing the Noble man from the ground, louingly embasing him, saide.

A tale of sorowe, and much griefe hast thou deliuered, which moued my heart to lament, the death of such a most honourerd Prince, and to grieve for those subiects, whose losse is

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so great. But tell mee, who governeth the Dukedom? and howe affect they the returne of the Princesse? Most gracious Lord (answering this sorrowfull Noble man) the state by a generall consent, is in the rule of Don Sebastian Andrea, a Noble Gentleman, of graue countenaunce, verie politique, wise, and most noble entyned, who forced vnto it by the inportunate suite of the subiects of all estates, in most honurable sort carrieth himselfe: so that by his rule, their Prince late dead, is in justice and all other god partes before remembred, little misyng, to be equall onelie, the nobilitie of his house acknowledged: so that the happiness of the Countrey is the more, in so prouident a governour. The like of whom, I haue shewyn to your highnesse, and all other Princes: sey where such knyght, which pyses honour, and the publike comonweale, before their owne courtois and private commoditie, where lawes are not solde for Lords pleasures, ney byblyes certaynt yustices, where through the poore are oppressed, the Commons vndone, and the state impouerished, there is Gods honoures, and the Prince truly served. And where such blessings be, thre is leue of Subiects, and faithfull heartes to their princes. Well haft thou sayd (quoth the Imperour) and in thy speech haft comforted my spritis, to haire the discouerse the honours of this noble Gouvernor, whom I will honour euer for thy honorabla report: on which meditating, he committed the secrete of his aynswere to the Noble man his great wisedome, loath that the sudaine newes shoulde anie way discomfyt the Ladie, whose welfare he pyses before his owne god. And so betaking the Imperour to his carefull studie for the Ladys quiet, and the noble Messenger to his repose, amongst his friends, we returne againe to our noble Edward, who is now in the way to the holy Cite.

How the Knight of the holy Crosse, accompanied with the Portugals, and his other companions iournied to the citie of Ierusalem, and what happened them.



When the noble Edward had by his prouesse, and honourable feates of Armes, by death of those miscreants, released the Portugall Marchants from theyr captiuitie, stowing themselves with such needfull prouision, as they coulde conveniently carrie. They spedde themselves with all the halfe they could, to end their desired busynesse, and fulfill their vowe in the holy Citie, keeping the way continually by the Mountaines, without any aduenture happening, vntill one of the Gasterlings, fell into such daunger of death, that there was no way to recover him, which the pittifull Knight perceiving, and hoping the best for his recoverie, making his stay to see the end, what would become of him, hee applyed himselfe by all meanes to seeke his recoverie, which was past all remedie. In which extremitez, our brayne English Caualere, playing the part of a heauenly Physician, comforted his weake patient, in the promises of Christ Iesus, and his passion, earnestly perswading him, to remember his time euill spent in this woorde, and howe manie and grievous sinnes hee had committed for any daunger, or hope of worldly promotions, to forsake his Sauour, whose mercies was more to bee regarded, then a legion of liues, or all the Kingdomes of the woorde.

In which comfortable wordes the distressed Gasterling taking great pleasure, when the houre came of his late farewell to the woorde, embracing the Knight betweene his armes, when his faltring tongue had left the vse of speach

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he shewed by signes, the hopes he had to be a copartier of the heauenly kingdome, and therwithall resined his breath, whom after the Christian manner in those mountaines, they entered as they best could, whiche done (sorrowing for the losse of him whom from death they coule not recall) they procede on their iourney, in which they had not long trauailed, but resting themselves in the desarts by a pleasant rivers side. The Moore which before hee had taken to attende their horses, discryed comming with great spedde towards them, a verie faire and beautifull woman, attired in a petticoate of crimson damaske, which was pursued by two Negroes slaves, which would violently haue abused her bodie. This strange sight in a place so vncouth, when the Moore had shewed the knight, like himselfe moued with pittie of distressed peoplz, especially of her sexe, presently mounted himselfe, and met her, whom he questioned of whence she was, and what moued her to flie so swiftly from those vilians. The Lady whom feare had almost deomed to death, being in a greuous extasie, could not forbeare to shewe the line of ioy by her iesture, albeit her heart restrained her tongue spech, which the knight perceiving, taking her in his armes, and brandishing his sword, thereby shewing to revenge her wrong, he comforted her in such wise, as taking assured hope on him, which seemed by his habite to bee a christiani, she said. Honourable knight, whom God hath rayzed for the comfort of a poore distressed captiue, know that I am wife vnto a noble Grecian knight, called Machatias, gouernour of Roades, who trauailing with a small traine to performe our religious vowe in the holy Citie, now two nights past, taking our lodging in these desarts, our tents pitched, and our guard hauing fire, as wel for our vse, to dresse and make ready our viands, as to defend themselves from the wilde beasts that haunt these mountaines, a crew of cruell and most brutish heathen, that keepe these places to disturbe the quiet of such passengers as they met, guided by the fire (as I said) came vnto our tents, whilist wee sleeping, dreaded neither them, nor any other euill. By those creatures was my most noble husband slaine, and such

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of our compauny, as resulde their diuellish intents: which done, making mee their Captiue, they horzed mee, and to theyz hellish mancion ledde mee, with some of our followers, where perforce they woulde haue bereft mee of that most precious ornament which all good Women holde in moze regarde then then theyz life: yet preserued by Gods fauour, my teares and pittious cryes did so penetrate the hearts of those homicides, that they haue pardoned mee that ill, vntill theyz returne from a spoyle which they haue vbertaken, meaning to visite theyz home within three or fourre dayes, leauing mee to the custodie of their Villaines, who with moze villaine haue menaced mee to obtaigne theyz pleasures, from whome hauing escaped by flight, I intreate you, that sheweth to be of gentle image, if thou bee no worse then thou seemest, eyther to preserue my chasttie from theyz rape by slaying mee, or like thy selfe, defende my innocencie, by auenging me on those accursed villaines that pursue me.

The Knight which during her long talke, had refled her gesture and modest demeanour, uttering her sadde lament, pitying her distresse sayde. Gentle Ladie, thy distresse my heart pittyeth, seeing thee in this unfrequented place, so hardly besette with companions of base condicions, of whome feare not, for my selfe by the power of him that sent mee for thy comfort, will so reuenge thy iust cause, as well on these, as on theyz maisters, as they shall neuer take pleasure in wronging a Ladie anie more: and thereon assur: you, as I am a Knight and a Christian. And without taking longer pawsse, willing the Ladie to staye her there, without dread of any man, he mounted his horse, and with his Sworde pursued the villaines, who fearing him, fledde as fast as they coulde, but in an unhappy time, for his legges baring of moze swiftnesse, hee easily over-tooke them, payng them theyz due recompence for a fact so culious, with deeth. Which finished, cutting off theyz hedes, he brought them with him to the Ladie, who

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Knight of the holy Croffe.

thankinge God for her deliuerance, rendered the like to the noble knight, unto whome prostrating her selfe, shee submitted the care of her safetie, beseeching him as hee was a knight at armes, not to dishonour her, nor to leaue her vntill hee came where Christians inhabited. Unto which, gaging his honour, by many solemne oathes, hee tooke her from the grounde, comforting her with all kindnesse, protefting withall, that he woulde not leaue those desarts unsought, vntill hee founde the dead bodie of her Lorde, to interre him with Christian rites, and revenge his death on the robbers.

The Ladie which founde such vnderpected comfort in her distresse, after shē hadde with many kinde requitalles of friendshippe, and shewes of loue, gratified the knight, breaking her from her protestations, hee caused her to mount his horse, conducting her to his Tentes, wherc theyz dinner, by those that helde him in moze regarde then thier owne lynes, was prepared, unto whome the Ladie was welcome, wanting nothing of theyz stede whiche was needfull, nor such honours as to her estate required. In this better content woulde leaue them a while, with sundrie discourses to beguile the time, to lette you knowe of theyz further aduentures.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVII.

Howe the Knight of the Holy Crosse in search of the dead body of Mathatias, gouernour of Roades, found him alive, with other aduentures.



He remaine of that day and the night following they spent in reposing themselves, the knight after he had taken such directions for his course in search of the Gouernour, her husband, as she could give, puruying them of vnguals for two dayes provision, accompanied with two of the Portugall marchants, taking leaue of the Ladie, and commanding the trust of her safetie vnto the rest of his followers, he left them: postng from mountaine to mountain, pynng and bewyng where hee could discerne any Tent, or shew of any. So long rid he in this manner, that in the euening, about the going downe of the Sunne, hee might discerne a troupe of Camilles laden, guarded with thre or foure naked mountenaries, to these the knight spedde him in all the hast, making such way, that hee soone suertoke them, whome encoutring, hee sayde. Tell me villaines of whence yee are, yea, and where had yee these Camilles with those marchandise in your keeping. The villaine mountenars hearing the knight vse these speches, vttered with a hoarsle voyce and a loke threatening death, trembling as though they wers readie to receive their iudgement and present execution of life, killing first the grounde, and after his feete, besought him to take compassion of them, relasing in what sort they hadde the Camilles, which they hadde taken from others which hadde them in charge, belonging to thos Thauers which hadde spoyled the Ladie of her husband.

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The knight vnderstanding by theyr talke that they could give him notice of the spoyled bodyes, questioned them further, commanding them on paine of theyr liues, to tell him where the Christians were, that were lately maillers of those Camilles, in doing which theyr liues shoule go vntouched, or otherwise they shoule there finishe their daies.

The villaines which woulde more willingly haue beeene further off, when they saue their liues was to bee saued for a matter of such small impoertance with them, sayde. The sunne hath not yet two times declined his power, since certaine Christians traualing thse mountaines, were encountred by robbers, that haue their continual being not farre off, who slaying the people, left these Camilles and gods in possession of their slaues to conduct them to theyr caue, whiche wee haue slaine, and humbly beseech thee of pardon.

Recrants (quoth the knight) you shall not so escape me, but you shall likewise die, if you bring me not presently to the place where those slaughtered bodyes lie, wherefore I aduise you do this and live, or denying it receive your deaths.

The villaines which saue howe bootelesse it was to perswade, yeilded theyr consentes, and hastned with so god speede, that they shortly arrived at the place, where they founde the mangled carcasses of the slaine Christians, weltering in their gore.

This pitifull sight mooued the knight of the Crosse so much ruth and sorwol for their deaths, yet knowing howe bootelesse teares are to call againe the dead, dismounting himselfe, hee suruayed the bodyes, turning, and so often tolling, to search the body of the dead gouernour, that with often remouing hee founde it, and viewing his personage, noting each iuamant, with his countenaunce, shewing a man of prowess, bedewyng his bloudie face with his warme teares, hee might perceue a panting breath to posse

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lesse herte, unto whiche taking god heede, washing his face, and clearing it from the congealed bloud, hee opened his iawes, powring into his mouth of that wine which he brought for his prouision, and after rubbing & chafing his vytall powers, hee recovered his life: so comforting him with the heat of his hands, rubbing and other carefull handling, that his spirit waxing strong, his tongue had some use, when looking gastly vp, as one reuived from a new world, hee called for his Ladie, and mising her, taking god notice of the Knight, which was a straunger unto him, he thus said. Noble Gentlemen, and my frendes, what yee are I know not, neither can I remember that euer I haue had any friendshyp with you, yet as you are Gentlemen, tell me of my Ladie, whiche is beceme of her, whether aliue or dead: next, what you are, whethir frendes, or thole that brought me to this miserie?

The Knight whose heart was euercome with suddain ioy, beholding the supposed dead to live, and speake, answered: wox, this am noble Gouvernor of that most honured Iland, know, we are Christiās as you are who hearing of thy distresse, haue vndertaken to finde thy body, supposed to be slaine, by spoylers of such as passe these mountaines, and here haue their residence. Thy Ladie I haue receiued from their tyrannie, and on their hures, haue reaenged the euill offered, by them unto her, and by my maker, whose scouldour I am bounden, will not depart these desarts, vntill I be acquitted, of all your wrongs, or loose my life in your causes. Therefore take comfort, and thanke God for your safetie, whom I doubt not, but will be so gracious to reseue you: your wounds I will vndertakē by Godz grace to recure, and deliuer in safetie your loue and Ladie: who living, dyeth with very sorowre for your great mishap. The Gouvernor hearing this comfort, well noating the manlike countenance and corage of the Knight, bending himself unto him, rendered many heartie thankes for those kinde fauours, and embracing the Knight as his weake arms would giue him leue, protested by the faith and honour of armes, to euer to become a frine frende and faithful co-part-

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ner of his aduentures, so pleased hym to accept of his loue and fellowship.

The Knight whome no Spaniard could match, eyther in courtesie or honour of Armes, taking his preffered loue as kindlie as they were offred, gave hym many heartie thankes. Then dressing his weundes with such comfortable Balmes as he had, and binding them safe, they horseth him, passing easily towardes the place where his company made their stay: where by the pzeudence of him, who is the Strength and conduct of all thole that trust in him, they arrived in safetie, though not before they were looke for, accompanied with their tents, canalls, and their carriages, to the exceeding ioy of the Ladie, and the unspeakable comfort of all his owne followers. They frendly embrasing, and other talke of their fortunes, passing betwene the Gouvernor and his Ladie, I omit to recount what other aduentures happened to them.

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CHAP. XVIII.

How the Knight of the Holy Crosse, accompanied with the Easterling and his Page, followed the robbers: with his aduenture.



Amours Edward, the honour of his countrey, whose valour was not not to bee matched, helde his countreyes reputatiōn in more regarde then his life, whereon now standing, scorning the Spaniards braues, or the scandal that might ensue by his report, if hee shold leauē them in such wise without reuenge, which he had promised: wherefore preferring his noble wōd, early in the morning, according to the directions he had giuen, taking leane of the gouernour and his Ladie, accompanied with his Page and the Easterling, he sette forward in search of those bloudie minded reprobates, following the direction of one of the vilaines he had last taken, whom he taketh for his guide, all that day rideng without any aduenture hapning, yet wearied with trauaile, desirous to refresh himselfe with taking some sleepe, hee caused his Tent to bee prepared, and his viandes to bee ordained: and when hee had refreshed himselfe, not daring to committ the trust of his person, to so vile a slave, which was not to be trusted. After theyz horses were vsed as they ought, he commannded the same to be bounde, taking order with his compaine that one shold watch whilſt the other slept, and to take diligent care of their welfares, that they were not surprised at unawares.

This charge the carefull attendaunts faythfully kept and performed, the day appearing, they leosed the Vilaine from his bondes, ordering the horses and each thing

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In readinesse: which done, they awaked the Knight, who seeing the morring well spent, was not long preparing, but hastening with all the spāde he might, betoke him to his intended pursuit of those homicides. So long they trauailed, that y heat of the day encreasing, they alighted, and leating them close on the banke of a pleasant riuier (taking such viands as they had, merrily spending the time with pleasant parlie) they might perceiue those gallants, who returning from the death of a heathen Prince, and spoyle of his people, missing their Ladie, voweid by all their gods never to surcease their trauaile, vntill they had recovered knowledge of her. For which, coursing like men posselt with a furie in pursuite of the Ladie, the knight hath gained his desires, who requir ing of the slave what they were, mounted on such swift coursers: he recounted vnto him wh at they were, aduising him to regarde himselfe, and to fli while he had time, for that they were many, and men of great puissance, hauing done many great outrages, and surprised sundry troupes of gallant men, trauailing that way. Peasant (quoth the knight) it is not thy speech of their valour that can daunt me, or cause me to turne my backe, vpon these diuelish companions. But as I am a Knight, and a true English man, or ever haue hope to beholde my native Country, were they a thousand to my selfe alone, armed as I am, in the name of my God, and hope of my rightfull cause, I would assaile them. And so arming himselfe, chearing his Page, and his associates, hee mounted his horse, couching his staffe in his rest, he put forwardes to meeete the compaine of robbing thievies, who was no sooner espied of them, but without wōd speaking most furiously they all assailed him, who were all so well resifted, and so eagerly encouerted of the Knight, as they had siall cause to boast them of their gaines. Guerie blow with blow, redoubled this noble Bxytaine on the robbers, doing such feates of horor and chualtrie, that it amazed them to see: but more terrified they were, that must of force abide his furie, who sparing not his strength, laide on them with such courage, crying Saint George, that after many sharpe alarums on either

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part, many of th̄ in were sent to seek their passeports in hell. Thus our noble knight encouraged with the hope of victorie, so behaued hymselfe, that they were all well neare brought to ende. The Captaine of which route, with fourre others his confederates, being men of valour, and resolution, seeing the massacre of their compaie, sought to reuenge their blodes with their greatest power. And encloſing hym on each ſide, layde about them in ſuch manner, that the Knight was by them greatlie endaungered. In this assault was his horſe ſlaine, when fighting a foote, eſpyng his best aduaantage, he gozed their horſes as they came, and gaue them that their mothes neuer provided for them: yet in deſpite of what hee coulde do, as the mightiell manie times bee forced to yelde, fighting on the gronne, and in the greatest daunger of life. The Page which ſingled hymſelfe from the broyle, wherein hee left the Casterling, beſtirred hym, whereby hee had leauē to breathe, and being ſomewhaſt reſreched, reaching violently one of the robbers by the legge, pulld hym perſorſe from his horſe, mounting hymſelfe threcon, and dashing out his maſtries with his heeles.

The Knight nowe againe mounted, ſo beſtirred hym, in that the moſt brauest of them that liued, coulde well haue afforſed to beene further off, but they which are bounde muſt obey. The game was nowe bied, and they muſt needes ſee it. So long bied and reviued was it by the Knight, that not one was left to count the ſtakē.

The broyle ended, and euerie act in this massacre perſormed, the Knight beholding th̄e brauning hell-houndes, weltering in th̄e blood, firſt thanking God for his fauour, in ſtrengthening hym in that diſtreſſe, yelting hymſelfe after his wearie trauaile, hee diſarmed hymſelfe, reſreching his wearey bodie for a time: which done, he haſteneth hym unto the place where they Gouernour and his Ladie remained, whom in the compaie of his beloved wife was comiſſored, whers with great ioy he was welcomed, to all his folowiers, who with the Ladie, ceaſed not to pray for his god ſuccesse.

Thus

Knight of the holy Crosse.

Thus leauē were this frolickie compaie, ioying in the geod fortunes of the Knight, who reposed hym ſelfe with th̄e friendes, vntill the Gouernour had recovered his full ſtrength, to trauaile, when leauing the deſartes, they proceeded on th̄eir journey to the Cittie of Ierusalem. In which trauaile wee leauē them, to ſhewe you the fortunes of the noble and vertuous Ladie Vallia, remaining with the Empereur in Rome.

C H A P. X I X.

How the Ladie Vallia, ſorowing for the death of her father, trauelled with childe, and what then chanced her.



Owe the time and place of the Hystorie ſerueth vs to leauē the noble Edward and his compaie, to let you heare of the vertuous Ladie Vallia, who trauailing with womens ordinarie grieſe, had not long to looke of her time, wherein ſhe expected an heyre to the woorthie knight of the Crosse: which caused the Empereur to detaine the heauie tidings of her fathers death from her. But as nouelties haue wings, and flie with the light breath of euerie taſſing tongue: to this lamentable hystorie came unto the eares of Vallia, who ſor her recreation and pleasure, walking in a Parka adioyning to the Pallace, was enceintred by a ſimple Souldiour, who haueing loſt his limmes in ſervice, alwaſted to impart his ſuite unto the Empereur for reliefe.

With this Souldiour, the Ladie questioning what ſeruices hee had ſene, as one that had knowledge of many honourable ſeruices done, but especially glad to heare of her Lord and husband, whose demands the Souldiour anſwered with much courage, not letting for his owne god to better all: in which his ſparch, deſcribing the woorthie conqueſt of Philip

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her fader (where he was,) a suddaine feare so possessed him, that his tongue with griefe denied further speech: which of the Lady beeinge perceived, meued with pittie of his sorrow, enquired diligently what moued him on such a suddaine to stay his talke, beginning new the mest delight, willing him to say on whatsoeuer he had: for sure she was, that rought but honurable should be said of her fader, or her loue, who was with him in all those seruices.

This blunt companion recomforted by her honourable counsell, and good encouragement, seeing hee must vster his hearts greefe, albeit hee had no thought or knowldge to whom he spake it, after some small pause, he said. Pardon me, gracious Ladie, for my heauie tidings, and accynt me no daftard for daring to speake, what is my hearts greefe, to vster the subiect of my tragicall swonding sorrow, to all the hearers. For the losse of our noble generall, whose vntimely death hath caused such heauiness and hearts discontent amoungst all thole of his gouernment, that will never bee blotted from theyr mindes, so long as any one breatheth that did know him. The sorrowfull Ladie hearing these dolefull tidings of her fathers losse, could not answere his talke, nor had power to speake, but as one readie to leauie this life, presently fell in a traunce to the gravenre, whome her armeed attendants Alynda, and the rest, by their carfull industrie reuived againe, though with much extremitie. The poore souldiour which saw howe ill his talke was taken, brooke no longer stay in that place, doubting his Princes displeasure, but got him from the Citie with all speed.

Vallia her suddaine greefe byged her paines, that her Midwiues were sent for, and with great perill of life, was not long after, delivered of two goodly Sonnes, whose sight, and other comfortable perswasions of the Emperour, and those Ladies that were about her, remoued a little her heauiness, which shee most honourable endured to all theyr joyes, for this good fortune of the Ladie, solemnre Precellions were made, Belles were rung, and Bonfires were plentifull,

plentifull throughout the Citie, with all other shewes and signes of gladnesse that might be devised. But to whom so ever these two newe borne Gentlemen was mest welcome, there coulde none take more pleasure in beholding them, then the Emperour, who woulde never haue anie time from his assayes of state, but the Purces were sure of his companie, to their ioy, and pleasures. In this offspring I leauie them, to recount the accidentis happening in Genoway.

CHAP. XX.

Howe Albert Duke of Millaine, hearing of the death of Philip Duke of Genoway, supposing his Daughter to bee dead, made claime to the Segnorie, and what chaunced.



When the high commander of men, had by death taken from his Countrey the hope and comfort of this most louing and honourable Prince, Philip Albert, Duke of Millaine, swelling with ambition, to enlarg his gouernement, and bring Vallia into his power, and heire of Philip, to be uised: first summo- ned the Vicegerent by his Heralde, to a parly, and the little he had, for their soueraigne, or abide the chaunces of warres, which with al the power, both of him and his friends, he would presently inflict vpon them.

This peremptorie message delivered, the Vicegerent ha- uing care to his oath and promise made, summoned the Nobilitie, and gouernours of each post, within these confines, vnto whom hee recounteth the message received from the Millaine Duke, with all the large circumstancies, declaring his title to be but usurped, and desiring their aydes in the right of the Ladie Vallia, heire and lawfull inheritor of their late deceased Lord, whome they shold mest highly wrong, if dastardlie

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of Valia, who for her recreation and
a banks adiouring to the **Wallace**,
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hoped to impart his suite unto

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they shoud intile another in her right. Wherefore my Lordes and louing friendes, (quoth the Gouernour) shewe in main- teining the honour and right of this Ladie, your loue to her father, in which you gaine more loue and honour, then to be in- uested with title of great worth. For no greater blemish can be to the p[re]ble, then to bee termed a cowarde, especiallie in a cause of such honour as this. Wherefore, if you will toyne with mee in full consent, esteeme his threates not worth a pinne, and prouide to give him such a welcome, as is fitte for an enimie.

The Nobles and all estates there assembled, hearing the honourable resolution of the Gouernour, with gene- ral consent lauding his magnanimitie, committed them- selves vnto him, promising on their honours, to main- taine with their bodies, goods, liues, and landes, whatsoeuer he resolved on.

This willingnesse with generall consent when the Go- uernour had seene and heard first giving them all hearty thanks for their honourable loue to their Princesse, and carefull re- gard of their common wealth, which they were all bounde by oath to the Church, as well as the signiorie to maintaine. After some other speach, he caused the Millaine herald to be brought before them, to whom he saith: Herald, thy message from thy Lord so peremptori sent, and by thee deliuered, with grane advise of the whyle state of our Province, we haue ad- uisedly considered. And finding by lawe, or natures right, hee hath no right nor iust interest in the same, wee haue determi- ned to denie his demaunde, and with our dearest blood will maintaine the lawfull issue of our late deceased Duke Philip, whose honourable deserts can not bee so suddainlie worne out. Thou knowest what wee intende, if thy Lord bee friend to vs, and our state, wee will requite his loue with the like againe, if a foe, hee shal find that Philipps rightfull inheritour shall not bee wronged, so long as wee haue life. And so finishing his speach, the Herald thus replied.

Nobles,

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Nobles of Genoway, whose grauitie is spoken of in all places, dereyue not your selues by presumption. Thy Lord is puissant and mighty, and not to bee dared by them of farre greater and moze force then you: wherefore weighing your owne goddes, and welfare of your Countrey and state, con- sider with whome you are to deale, his honour, state, power, and what is to bee required in Majestie, bethinking what a friend hee is to his friendes, and what a ferroure to his enemies. In weighing all which I doubt not, but your gra- uitie and wisedome will alter these sondre resolutions, before you prouoke him to furie, least when you woulde submitte your selues, hee bee as farre of from hearing you, as you are peremptorie in refusing him. In your answere, consider your welfare, or subuersion. Wherefore let not overboldnesse leade you to mischiese: I speake as I wish, that you might prevent your owne mischieses.

The Gouernour hearing the Herald speake so much of submission, as though his Lordes countenance might terrifie and affright them, even as Bugbeares do children, thus sayde.

Heraulde, what wreness thou wer of the state of Ge- noway are, that thus thou menacest vs with thy maisters high actions, power, and friends? Is Albert become such a Bugge to feare his bordering neighbours? No, let him daire children and fooles, with his threates. If hee come as a friend, as hee did when our good Philip liued, he shall bee welcome: if otherwise, it is neither power, friendes, nor his valour wee esteeme. Our honour wee will maintaine in despite of his Warde, maugre all the friendes Spaine, or Ita- lie can affoarde him. And so thou hast thy answere: replie no more: for what wee say, we will perorme on our ho- nours, as thy Lord shall finde, when hee dares make triall.

The Heraulde having his answere, like a Male-con- tent, dooing his dutie deprated. The Noble and states of Ge- noway, taking carefull order for the mustering of they

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souldiers, and making forre, that there enemie might not take them sleeping, but alwaies in readinesse, when occasion shoulde serue to defende themselves, and offend the enemie.

CHAP. XXI.

How the Herald returning his answer from the Lenowaines, Albert puruaied his armes.



He Millaine Duke expecting his Herald's return, with the Genowaines offer of obedience, after long looking, arrived at the Court, to whom the Duke gaue honorable welcomes, enquiring the answere to his Ambassage. To whom the Herald at large recounted the honourable resolution of the gouernour, who would not deliver their tytle of government to any stranger whatsoeuer, willing him to rest content, or abide what chance warre will alet him.

The Millaine Duke raging with furie, at this vnerpected answere: vowed by no simple oathes to reuenge him on the gouernour, whom he threatened with great afflictions, if hee preuaded: And hasting to see the euent of his determinations, presently dispatcheth his Ambassage to Florence, the prowesse of Marcellus and Tclone, and other his frendes, for theyr ayd in this exployt, willing them to be readie by a day preuised, at some port of his, to them best beleeming god, and most easie for their conuay. With these letters, the messengers being gon, great was the preparation made in his owne territorie, of men, victualls and munition, whereof there wanted none, such as the Countrey yeldeth. Such was the hast and care of those vnts whom the charge of those affaires were committed, that in short time, al things were prouided in such god order as could be besred, their onely stay was, for their expected power, which

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which accoordingly was puruaide, some marching by lande, others with theyr prouision by Sea, so that in short time they are all well met, at Millaine, where they made no long staye, but every man receiuing his charge.

The companies appointed for the land, marched forwards in thre batailles, the foremost of which, was led by the Duke of Florence, the baward by the gouernour of Marcellus, and the Rereward, by the Duke of Millaine, who hadde under his conduct, all the horsemen, with the carriage and prouision. For the Sea seruice, was appointed for to bee Admirall, Alfonce Earle of Pyemont, having under his charge of Gallies, Bregandines and Foystes, one hundred and fiftie sayles, warlike and well appoynted, with all needfull prouision, having also vnder his charge, a number approued and Noble Captaines, trayned to the Sea, all carrying mindes of resolution to inuest theyr Noble frende the Duke of Millaine, in his challenged Dukeome.

The Genowaynes, whose prouident care was to prouide for their Countries safetie, was not ydle in all these times: but making readye what power they coulde, both of theyr owne, and such other frendes as they could prouice, relying on the Justice of their cause, and nought at all fearing the multitudes of theyr enemie, of whose numbers they were all aduertised by theyr owne Espyalls.

The carefull regarde of the Gouernour, hadde so wrought, that all things were ordered to his content, his frendes, the Neapolitan Duke with his powers beeing come, and all others that they expect, theyr Gallies and shippes furnished, the conduct of each severall compaines was appoynted to men of worth and honourable resolution, who encamped themselves with wonderfull great pollyey without the Cittie, euern in the enemie's cheife passage.

Their

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Their power of shippes and gallies likewise appoynted at poynt device, a Councell was calld, and the Admirall sworne in the open asseniblie not to yeld, nor in any soxt to discontinue the fight, but taking all aduantage, to do his best for theyz defence, and discomfiting of the enemye. This done, and the shippes haled soorth, they harbourd every man being aboord, that they hadde charge of. They cheerd theyz compaie, exhorting them to valour and courage, not omittting often to recounte the right cause of defence, with the enemis entacion, with all other perswasions that might tend to their encouragement, to the great comfort of al the compaie, who with one voyce yelded signes of great ioy, bawling euerie one to the other, to liue conquerours, or die tennre thousande deaths, rather then i ncurre the odious name of coward.

Thus cheering themselves with hope of victorie, with a ringing peale of cannons, that made the ayre rattle, and the earth to shake, they sette sayle, bidding theyz friendes a short farewell, who attening theyz enemies comming, woulde leue them hanering at the sea for a tyme, till they mette againe.

CHAP. XXII.

Howe the two armes meeting at sea, the Millaine Duke with his power was discomfited.



These honourable Armies well appoyn-
ted, both by lande and sea, a generall
expectation was made on both sides,
for their meeting, wherein each one
hoping for victorie, wished so to see
the event of theyz fortunes (long lo-
ked for commeth at the last) and time
hath

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hath brought the two fates in sight one of the other, which desiried, all policie was wrought for the aduantage in the fight, wherein those gallants of Genoway shewed their best stell, keeping in despight of the Millaine armie, the wunde, and in great braverie haled the enemies with their warlike musickle, in such soxt, that the skyes resonning the echoes of theyz noyse, which was not vnauswered by the Millaine flete, made as gallant a shewe as the other, where some tyme was spent in triumph betweene them, and the Gallies and shippes within shot, their prowess with great courage was discharged, and euerie man with such weapon as he vsed did his best.

Long tyme and much powder was spent on both sides, with much effusion of bloud, eyther parte doubtfull of the victorie, which the Generall of the Genowayes perceiving, haling his Viceadmirall, and the Admirall and Vice-admirall of each Squadrone, with a flagge of parley, they dwelue neare unto him to heare what hee hadde to saye, who charged them vpon their allegiance, without anis more forbearing or consuming of tyme, to boord withall speede euerie man as hee coulde haue aduantage, and so to make quicke and short tryall of their fortunes.

This counsell of the generall was welcom to euerie man, who were verie gladde and ioyfull of that commandement, which was that which they expected, for they attened but to see him, being aduised to follow his deceiuers. And thereuppon forciing theyz Gallies by maine strength of Dares aboord, with great courage and valour they gaue this onset, in which was many feates of houour and armes atchieued, where many a man of woorth left his life, oþthers lost theyz limbes, and many spoyled and wounded to the death. The Gallies fired, and divers sunk, all hazards that daye were with great perill espaped, after many bloudie strokes and much other mischiefe on both sides,

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Ades, the houre of the victorie befell the Genowayes, who toke their Admirall gallie, slew their chieftaine, and burned and sunke many of the rest, such god successe followed their just cause, that fewe of their enemies escaped without great hurt from the fight.

The fight ended, night appraching, a retreat by the Admirall was sounded, which done, a view was taken of the prisoners, and the gentlemen and commanders of the Millenaries, sent aboord the generall, for the rest order was given, that they should remaine aboord their severall gallies, which done, a generall laude was given to God for their victorie, and every one following the course of the Admirall, they made their way for Genoway, and in shourt time with the diligence of the Capitaines, and good encouragement of the commanders of each gallie, they had sight of their port, and not long after recovered the same, where their iostes were increased by the sight of their friendes happie returne, as by their solemn shewes of gladnes was manifest, to the great encouragement of al the aduenturers, and increasing of the prisoners great greate, who made such sure account to tryumph in their ouerthowles, and like Lords to command ouer them, nowe to be subiect to their enemies. Thus their heauie sighes bewraying their sorrow, the generall of the flete moued with pittie of their care, beeing a man very debonaire and kind, with a countenance ful of pittie, his bonnet bayled, came unto the caualleres, persuading them to comfort themselves, and to extend this vnerpected chance as one of fortunes bandies, whose inconstancie was not to bee wondered at, for (quoth he) they that gaine to day, may loose to morrow, the fortunes of warres are difficult, a cleare conscience and a iust cause armeth men with couraige, & they that fight in right are often fortunate. Our cause God hath righted, whiche your duke sought to wrong: he is the giver of victory, to whom bee all glorie. Yet gentlemen (quoth he) dismay not, neyther clogge your hearts with too much care of your bad fortunes, you are fallen into the hands of a kinde and most noble enemy, who will well intreate you, and for mine owne part, which am

at

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at the Gouernours command, I assure you, your ransomes shall be so easie as you shall like well of.

The Millenaries captive hearing theye kinde enemie vse such wordes of comfort, whare hee might menace with deach and cruell reuenge, beeing at his mercie, with courteisie returned great thankes for his most friendly counsell and god perswasions, vowing themselves his obedient prisoners, neuer to departe, or offer any manner of discourtesie in word or action, vntill they were lawfully licensed so to doo. Which wordes the Generall accepting, each man had free libertie within the Cittie, to goe at his or theye pleasures.

CHAP. XXIII.

How the Armies by land meeting, what happened them.



God sent the sea power of these p'mces to triue first theye forces, so not long after theye armies appraching, the Millaine Duke beeing aduertised by his espialles of their readinesse, hearing of the ill successe of his flete, loath to putt all on hazard without some more pause

and restyng his people which were verie soore wearied with theye long and hard traualle, for whiche cause, as well to consult with his leaders and copartners, hee caused his Tents to bee pitcht, giuing god directions for sure watch to bee kept throughout the Campe: which done, and they having reposedit themselves that night, the next day a parley by flagge was sommoned, wherein euerie man was heard, both for advise in marshalling the Armie, as for policie in surprising the enemie, where in each mans opinion sayde, the Duke melancholike for his ill successe and losse of his flete was so malcontent, that nothing might be said wherein hee tooke pleasure: yet gaue he leauue

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to euerie one to say his mind, which humours nothing contenting his nobility and such as were drawne shither by his cause, loath that his headstrong humours should dishonour them, the Ferrara Duke, as one that might be most bold with him, sayd. Cousin of Millaine, for your sake wee haue gathered bordering neighbours, maintaining no iust cause of curswne, but your intended quarrell, wherein if wee reape any dishonour, wee haue our deserts. Ledde by your counsell wee haue bee, as sheepe to bee slaine, and now hauing hadde a little croſſe, dismay you, that our people ſeing your diſcomfort, may leauie vs haue in the middest of our enemies. It is dastardlike to ſearc in ſuch a cauſe, and may bynde all our euerthow: wherefore reſolute either to maintaine your honour, and with reſolution finiſh what you determined before our comming from our owne homes, or on mine honour, I will drawe my ſcorſes againe to thayre owne habitation, and leauie you to your beſt fortunis: ſay therefore your intent, for wee may not heere long continue, the enemie beeing ſtrong, and in their owne confiſes, where wee are ſtranglers, auſſred of no ſauour, but what wee can purchafe with the ſword.

The Villaine Duke hearing his cousin of Ferrara ſo plaine, thought beſt to make ſhewe of god content, what ſoever hee thought, wherefore without longer paſſing, as one that in that extremitie deſired ſome counſell, hee ſayde. Most honourable couſin, pardon me, that haue not ſhewed my ſelfe in this action as I ought, and conſider the cauſe I haue of diſcontent, which hath made mee forgette my honourable god friendes: yet god Couſin, diſhonour me not ſo muche to adiuge me of cowardize, for euer my heart hath abhorred that odious fault: but what your pleaſure is to attempt, I will perſonne, and thereon giving his wordes of honour. The Duke conſented to his will, who gaue in charge the next moring euerie man with his compaie to bee marching by the brake of day, that lying neare the armie, they might by thayre ſedaine ſtrikes ſe what aduantage

there

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there was to be gotten.

According to whose commaunde euerie thing was effected, and the companyes marched neare to the Cittie, within halfe a league where the Genowayes campe late, where they ſtrongly enſconced themſelves, and hauing taſken thre or fourte dayes reſpit, wherewith theyr compaie was well reſeſhed, a Herauld was ſent from the Gouvernour of Genoway, to knowe the cauſe of their coming in armes, againſt the lawes of Christian Princes, to diſturb their peace, hauing no iust cauſe ſo to do, commaunding him and his friendes, confederates, and followers, either to rayfe theyr campe and be gone, or prouide them to battell, and therein trie the euent of eythers fortunes.

The Villaine Duke haſing attentively hearkened to the Heraulds message, mooued with choller at his haſing ſpeech, without regarde of honour or lawe of armes, hadde like to haue beaten the Herauld, but beeing perſwaded by the Duke of Ferrara from ſo unhoneourable a fact, he ſayth. Herauld, goo tell that blupping Gouvernour of my right, that I am come to chafte his iſcience, and leaue him to knowe his deſtie to his leige Lord, neyther ſhall any one of his rebellious compaionis ſcape the furie of my wrath, without they come preſently in ſubmiſſion manner, and accknowledege their ſault and great offence committed againſt mee, which if they refufe, by that time the ſonne hath wiſe made h. r. recourie about the earth, I will maſte him, and thole ſleeping curres his compaionis, in the plaine that lyeth Eaſtward from the cittie, ſo God ſay Amen. Therefor depart, my word ſhall be thy ſafe conueit for this tyme.

The Herauld haſing his anſwer, without long ſay haſſeth to the campe, where unte the gouvernour and his compaionis in armes, he recounted the Dukes reſolute determination, willing him to prepare againſt the tyme appoynted

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to meete him, wherewith the governour and the rest were all well pleased, committing theye cause to God, and relying on theye iust Title. And thus resolving to meete him at the time and place appoynted for the same, hee presently gave order to dislodge his Campe, to drawe more neare the place by the Duke appoynted, sending his most expert men at armes to viewe the grounde, for theye best aduantage, which with great care was so accomplished, that the sunne nor enimis could not greatly annoye them. The Villaine Duke and his accomplies carefull of what they hadde in hande, slept no time, but with great care and regard, proceeded with theye compaines more neare the place appoynted, where all things framed by marshall discipline and good advise of the Captaines, they expect a happy day of tryall.

Time that faisheth all things, hath brought the appoynted day, in which the carefull leaders so busilie emploied themselves, that all things were ordered in most honourable and decent manner, where no policie of eyther part was omitted for the aduantage: which done, and the battailes readie to ioyne, a Herald was sent from the Gouvernor of Genoway, willing him before hee committed the iustice of his cause to the battaile, to call to minde the iustice of God, in delivering his sea powers into their handes, wishing him not so much to dishonour his noble house and followers, to hazard all to fortune. If hee woulde accept this proffer, and confesse the wrong offered his estate and commonons, hee woulde remit the iourney past, and give him free leaue to passe in quiet through his countrey, if not, and hee pruailed, hee shoulde finde in iustice what it is to disturbe the quiet gouernement of so peaceable an estate.

This message delivered, the Duke fretting at the Gouvernours kinde and courteous motion, sware by no small power, to acquite his pride, and learne him to knowe to his great greese, what it is to mooue his

Prince

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Prince to fute, and so with a shert replie to his message, sent the Herald away.

Scantly had the the Heraul'd recovered the Pavillion of his Loze, but a Brauado was made by the Ferara Duke, who was the first that began the fight, and was gallantly encountered with the Duke of Naples, who met him hand to hand, each knowing other by theye colours. Betweene those Princes began a fierce and deadlie fight, who singling themselves, both hoping of honour, so applied theye forces one against the other, that it was doubtfull whether should haue the glorie of the day. Both of them by their prowesse giuing courage to their followers, betweene whome many hardie feates of armes were atchived, the battell on both sides beeing very doubtfull. In this conflict, the two Dukes like Lyons, beare themselves, vntill the Ferara Duke, with long continuance of the fight, fell from his horse, who was presently rescued by a Band of his owne compaines, that in the parting, had like to haue slaine the Duke of Naples, if the Duke his enemie had not bene more honourably minded, that rescued from daunger by his frendes, haue left the feldie that time. Right growing on them, a retreat was sounded on eyther part, and every man withdrew them to theye Tents: in which battell, was taken many Prisoners, on eyther part, which by compromise of the Gouverno's of both parts, was redclinered. Thus for a time we leaue them to their repose, and hopes of theye good successe, to tell you of the Princes Vallia.

K 3

CAAP.

How the two childre of the lady Vallia was solemnly christened, with other aduentures.



He most renowned and noble minded Emperour, desirous to honour the Christening of the two children, had invited all the nobilitie and Princes neare bordering on his confines, to be witnessess of that solemnite, appointing for that time, great triumphes to be performed: and for that purpose, caused challenges to be set vp, against all cominers, to be maintained by his champions, the winners to haue rich rewards.

The day of solemnite being come, many Princes and Noble personages assembled themselves to the Triumph, the Emperour in person, being Godfather to both the sonnes of the Knight of the holy Crosse: unto whome, many rich presents were given, by sundry Princes, that honoured and leved theyr Father.

At these banquets, amog many others which harkned of forain novelties, Alinda, busying her self to heare, & overheare straige tidings, heard two noble gentlemē discourse of the state of Genowaye, recounting at large, the honorable demeanour of y Gouvernor thereof, & his successe, in their sea aduentures, with each particulaire chance, happening in these warres, which waited of Alinda, that needed no oratour to tell her tale, her tongue carrying a heauie waight, vntill shē had opportunity to reueale the same unto her Ladie: which shē sought, yet could not obtaine it, vntill late in the euening, when euerye Guest had withdrawne themselves to rest: when having time fit to her desire, shē beganne first in pleasant motions to feele the humour of her Ladie, whether pleasantly

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or melancholie disposed, and finding her pleasant humour, shē saide. Madame, since the heauie tydings from Genoway, I haue not seene one pleasant motion pastesse you, lette me your olde seruant, intreat this fauour at your hands, to saye, what you coulde well frame your fable and vnable handes to doo, in defence of your owne rightfull inheritance of Genoway?

Alinda (quoth the Princes) thy fond prattle will never bee left, what moueth these suddeine motions, and recounting Genoway, say, what occasions are offered in those parts, I pray thee say?

Madame (quoth Alinda) your Ladiship alwaies is pleased to mislike me, and my simple meaning, what I intende herein, is nothing, you knowe I am none of those that seeke commora: wealthes benefit, but say god Madam, that I were, as I am nevere like to bee, the rightfull heire to the Dukedom of Millaine, and shoud by violence fasse to usurpe your right in your Dukedom by force, what dirst you do for defence of your selfe and your people. Alinda (quoth the Princesse) seeing thou sayest thy talke beginne is in least, I will as heedlesly answere thy demands.

Suppose Alinda to be my enemie, and in Armes in my Countrey, spoiling my commons, and ruitating my Countrey, thou myghtest well accuse mee of covetouse, if in Armes I shoud not meete thee, reuenging my iust cause on my enemie: for thus, and in this manner, would I challice the Millaine Duke: laying god stroakes on the backe of her mayden, with a cudgell, which shē easily found. Which challice that shē could well demeane her self, turned in this maner. Madam, if to be Duke of Millaine, be so painefull, and that to a usurper, there belong such punishment, lette them bee Dukes that list, Alinda will be her self as long as she can. The god Duke of Millaine answere the Princesse, I am verye sorry that I shoulde so suddeinlye vnytyle your grace: but vpon some conditions, I will make your Maestie recompence.

Madame

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Madame quoth Alynda, promotion I feele is heauie, the name of Duke is imprinted I feare me in blacke and blew on my shouolders. But since they be badges of your Ladiships colours, and your gift, in hope of better I must accept these. But may it please you to let me know your conditions, that likeing thereof, I may deserue your reward. I marie Alinda (quoth the Princesse, but first swere unto me to answer iustly my demands, and then aske thy reward.

Alynda hearing the Princesse so pleasant, was loath to hinder her begnune myght: but farding her vaine, of put her from thole dampes, said.

Madame, since it is your Ladiships pleasure to bring mee from a zealous prophesier, vsing no oath, but yea, yea, and nay nay, cock and pye, & such like, to rend thole creatures that God hath made, say by what you will haue me swear, and I will parforne me it.

How now Alinda (quoth the Princesse) where blowes the winde now: the More I dare gage my life is in some merrie corner, that hath brought the to this conceited pleasures: but leauing all, tell me as thou tenderest my loue: What moued the to name the Duke of Millaine: my minde presageth some vnerpected chance hath happened: my people by his meanes if they haue, and thou therewith acquainted, I swear by that loue I beare my Lord Edward, never to forgine it the, vnsle thou reueale thy meaning therein, and tel me the truth of what thou hast heard.

The maiden hearing her iest proue so contrarie, loath to offend her, which she honoured aboue all the creatures on the earth, thus said. Madame, I haue often heard it amongst the learned, obserued for a principle, not to ieast with superiours, dreading the mistaking of any simple meaning, wherof I might haue taken haide, but seeing my tongue hath beene so long hanged to vtter the hearts secrets, pardon what I haue to say, and I will hide nothing to satisfie your desire. Then proceeded (quoth the Princesse) and whatsoeuer thou sayest, I freely forgine it the.

Alynda

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Alynda, whom all intreaties vngift for pardon from the King her minde, said: This day my gracious Duke, the banquet beeing now furnished, with many an honorabell Guest, two gallaunt youthes whose names I knowe not, questioning one with the other, of the state of Genowaye, and of the Province thereof, returning lately from those confins, a tale of ioye, and much lamentations hee deliuered, whiche wrong manye feares from my heart, at hearing thereof, it easeth manye exceeding toyes to possesse me. Yet disposed to crosse me (quoth the Princesse) leauing off I saye these fond delusions, and saye how both joye and care at one entir time assayled the.

Madame (quoth Alynda) when he delivered the pride and iactancye of the agallant Duke, setting forth his intent to obtaine your iugement in the Dukedom, by wounding the gent to his will, whose knell when he could not aske he raised a mighete power by sea, and anthoner parte heould be land, wyring with other Princes neare adiourning to accomplit his boord. The Duke discomfited by your Captaines, and they obtaining a most honorabell victorie, the Duke himselfe to jage your coulours, and hath fought a most honourable battell, each side doing theyre deuoyre in such wise, as it was doubtfull whether hadde the best, and thus they left them: and this hath bredde both my care and great toye.

The Princes who tendered her native Countrey as her owne life, premititating on her maidens speech, and retarding each sevral accident, many times wished her Lord present to challice thole blasphe: bewing to reuege thole wrongs on Millaine, and all partakers: yet this in her womankind sturie, reasonable meanes shee had none to make, without acquainting the Emperour therewith, which shee was verye loath to do: Yet beatyng her Braines, to finde out some shifte, to behold the manner of their doings, shee was ever crossed by some other contrarie accident, which made her solitarie to abandon the companye of all people, enchy her trusste ser-

gentrecepted, who seeing her heauynesse, lamented her rashnesse in revealing those tynges, which yet renewed her sorowes.

CHAP. XXV.

Howe the honourable Princesse Vallia, performing her Church duties, after hertrauale, went disguised from Rome.



The Princesse which sought many means to attaine her desire, longing mox deeperly to see the estate of her commones, then for any worldly benefit, and so yeilds them comfort in theyz distresse. The tyme of her Churching beeing nowe finished, shre bethought her selfe of one secret intent, which shre wold assuradly put in proffe, if Alynda woulde thereto give her content, denising many waies how to acquaint the maiden with her purpos, yet fearing to discouer the simple intent of her former purpose, who knowing her Alynda to bee of a most sharpe and readye witt, shre first by manye circumstaunces bounde her to her secrets, which done shre said.

Alynda, in many extreames, shou hast biene my faithfull councellour, and conseler of my secretes, from whome the deepest thoughts of my heart hath never beene hidde, and having founde thy loyaltie, I doubt not the like at this tyme, which I will require to thy content: to holde thee longer from what thou expectest to knowe, I haue since I hearde the discourse the distresse of my poore subiects, bowed to GOD my Redemer to see them, and to lend them all such

helps

helpe as my power will stretch unto, enly for furthering my intent herein, advise mee what secret course to take, in which thou shalt highlye pleasure mee: But as thou louest mee, stande not vpon any denials, or persuasions to withdrawe mee from this determination, for whatsover betide of mee, I will execute what I haue heare intened.

Alynda which sawe her earnestnesse to performe her will hearein: be foright her of pardone, her wittes beeing to simple, to giue readie advise in a case so full of daunger. But Madame (quoth shre) that you shall knowe, my loue is as streme as euer it was, deuise you the mean, and I wil doo my best to enact it, keeping your secrets til I dye for it.

Enough, my owne swete Alinda, I take thy woorde, and on thy faith, charge thee presently to provide me some trustie frende to accompanie mee, which can disguised in mans atyre, armed like a Knight of the Emperours, will trauale, my companion knowing nothing what I am: Wherefore saye to him, whome thou shalt appoint for my guide, I am thy Brother, that for some occassions of thy Ladies, is bounde for those parts of Itaile, and on thy woorde, assure him of a god rewarde for his paynes, to his verye godlyking. But hasthe thee, for I can enioye no quiet content, vntill I haue honourablye performed my will.

Madame (quoth Alynda) this shifft may goe as currant as heretofore. But say godlymadame, how shall I auisidere your absence when the Emperour shal enquire for you? Haire this my Alynda, thou shalt giue it out amongst the Ladies of the Court, as well as amongst mine owne attendaunts, that I haue made a solemnme vov, to fast certayne dayes: In which tyme, performing my other piance for my sinnes past, I will not bee seene or spoken unto of any but your selfe: this shifft, I doubt not, but maye suffice.

A pleynkt Historie of the

Excellenthys god Ladie, (quoth Alynda,) I see now a willing
horse needes no spurre, God lende your Ladishippe well to
prosper in your journey: for I never saw your wits so sharped
before.

But now for horses, where will you spedde? Thy selfe,
Alynda shall be my credit, thy honest woorshall bee enraged
to the maister of the Emperours Horse, for two such as
shall bee most excellent, if not, mine owne assurance shall
serue with him, to do thy owne adopted Brother anye plea-
sure.

Welcom me Madame, I like your plat well, and doubt
not, but that shal be as wel performed it. I haue bethought me
of a proper Gentleman, a woor of mine owne, in sooth
he is: whome I will conuere, of that loue hee hath so often
profest, to beare my Brother companie, and to provide him
some god guide for his conduct: in meane time, I will provide
your furniture, which shal all bee brought to your owne per-
son.

What sayest thou Alynda? wilt thou name me in
buying for me those needfull things? No Madame (quoth
she) you mistake me, leane that to my charge, and rember you
no more with these cares.

The plat being lade for the Princes tourney, Alynda
so applyeth her selfe in puttayng each needfull thing, that
mayre dayes wers not spent, before each necessarie was
brought into the Princes lodging, and exquisitly fitted her,
guide and other confortes, to her owne verye god likynge.
Whiche being done, and the daye appoynted to theyr depar-
ture, Alynda calling her frende before the Princesse,
said,

Most gracious Ladie, leste your humble servant intreat
your Ladiship to grace this frende a knyght of mine, with
your fauourable countenance. And seeing I haue made chiose
of hym amongst all the gallants of this roial Court, I be-
seeche you witnessse with mee, what trusse I repose in hym,
that communyng mine owne and onely brother to his guiding, in a

journey

Knight of the holy Croffe.

journey for my god, which hee vnde:ta: eth. Yong hee is,
and not able to endure such hardे trauaile, without some
god guide: and sicknesse, incident to all men, may oppresse
him: of which (my god Hortelious, for so was he named) take
thou especiall regard, for that what thou doest to hym, is done
to my selfe, and as great shal thy thankes be in doing hym plea-
sure. To morrow by that time the morning shall give light at
the gate, behinde these lodgings he shall attend you, where
faile not to meeke hym, and me: and so for this time farewell.

This kinde louer whiche had no thought what seruice
he vnderooke, was carefull of his charge, loath to be accoun-
tected negligent at this first entertainment, slept not vntill
he had all things in god so: readie. The Princesse minding
her journey, was all night, or the better part, in armynge and
prouding her selfe, attending the comynge of her trussie
guard, who failed not his houre appoynted, where the Prin-
cessesse accompanied with hit Alynda, mett hym. And making
small stay, taking their loach depart each of other, were leare
then to their journey, and Alynda to her fadious thoughts,
how to beguile the Emperour in her Ladies absence, as here
after you shall heare.

CHAP. XXXI.

Howe the Emperour with great regarde of the infants
good fortunes, caused a man of Arte to calculate their
nativitie.



The Emperour whose felicitie was in those
noble children, of whome hee had more
care then of an ordinary friend, desirous to
knowe what in their birthes was predesti-
nate vnto them, sought manie wayes to
attaine vnto his desire, and acquainted ser-
vile his friendes with his intent. After long care taking to
attaine his desire, had intelligence of a reverent Hermet,

A pleasant Historie of the

which had his being on Alpes leading from Rome to Naples, whose Art was matchlesse in the Arte Pethimaticke. Unto this heretofore he sent his trustie counsellor Anthonie Bulcatho, entreating him, (whom he might commaunde) to satisfie his pleasure herein sending, by him, the houre, day, and moneth, truly set downe of their nativitie.

Such herte made this noble man, that hee came unto the Cell of the Hermet, whom hee kindly intreated to satisfie the Emperours pleasure herein, who loath to be deuolue from his heauenly motions, could not a long time be perswaded to it. In the ende, so manie were the intreaties, and unfortunate fates of the noble Messenger, that he graunted his good will, promising by a certaine time to fulfill the Emperours suite, and by writing to satisfie him.

Anthonie having what he desired, returned the Emperoz his answere, whos spending the time in manie thoughts of his desires, tooke no rest vntill he heard what the Hermet laid. As time spendeth, so time brought the limited time to ende, of which the Emperour was carefull, when calling his Anthonie, he caused him to speede vnto the Hermet, where making no stay, posstid about his busynesse, and in happis tyme arrived at his Cell: where entring conference with the aged father, touching his questions, he receyued no woydes at all, wherewer he might take any occasion of iudgement. But after some repast taken, he sayd.

My noble Anthonie, whose paines hath beeene such, to see my homely Cell, thankes for your paines, to my gracious Prince heartily commend me, and vnto him deliuer these fewe lines, which shall import that small knowledge I can give.

The noble man hauing received his message, woulde not make moare inquire of ought, but taking his friendly farewell, hasteneth vnto the Court, of whose comming the Emperour was gladd: who calling him into his Closet, enquired the newes he had. At which drawing his packet, signed with the Emperours signet, he deliuered the same vnto his Daletie, who renting the seales, read the contents therof following.

The

Knight of the holy Croce.

The Nobles borne within the stately Court,
Mongst Princes great, shall beare a kingly port.
The latter borne, a straunger hence shall steale,
By whom great good shall chance thy comon weale.
In armes with many matchlesse Princes he shal fighte,
Yet neuer be foylde by anie humaine wight.
Gods glorious name by power he shall aduaunce,
And shall be knowne at length by happy chaunce.
Who gaue him life, of him shall life receive,
Where he tooke life, there shall he life bereue.
In trauaile shall this worthie champion bide,
Vntill this lucklesse fortune to him shall betide.
Marrie he shall, with a mast princelie wife,
And end his daies in religiou: kinda of life.
The Elder brother like a Lion fierce,
The Pagans proude his prowes shall menace.
The flying birds his parents shall bewray,
And raging beast, shall vnto him obay.
Most strange euent by him performade shall be,
Myrrour of knighthood, and of chiualtrie.
For ouer East to west, their honours shall be spred,
And Romans through his myght shall be magnified.

These darke and close couched lines, when the Emperour had read, and ouer-read many times, and could not conceiue the meaning therof, he was more troubled in spirit then before. But when hee was warned, that the yonger shold be borne from him by a straunger, he tooke order that these iuices shold bee in one of the chiefeft fortresses about the Cittie, where hee vsually visited them: in whome hee tooke moare delight, then in anie thing, especiallie in Constantine the yonger, which bare his name, of whome his feare was moest. The elder whome had to name Nartellion, hee was not so watchfull of, yet had he a faterly care of both. In this great regard, and heedful care, these princes were seuen yeres within the fortresse

of

of the Cittie nourished. What after happened them, the H
eroye shall shew you as it commeth.

C H A P. X X V I.

Howe the Princesse Vallia arriued at Genoway, and what
happened her.



Long and wearie trauaille hath brought
the Ladie in sight of Genoway. Be-
fore she could reconer the Cittie, she was
encountred by the Ambuscades of the
Millaine Duke, who tooke her prisoner,
and brought her to the Dukes Pavil-
lion. The Duke seeing so faire and
beautifull a face, questioned her (for so we
must termine her no[n]e) of whence she was, and what as-
sayres ledde her thither, whether she came as a friend or an
enemie. Vallia, whose seruare not to leke of readie answeres,
seeing her selfe in the handes of him that woulde not willingly
part with her, if he had knowledge of her, dissembling (as well
she could) what she was, sayd. Noble Prince, the desire I haue
to make triall of my manhood, hath brought me to thee, for that
I haue heard thy honoura[re] spoken of amongst many. A Gentle-
man I am, desirous to see the manner of warre: and if thou
vouchsafe it, the p[re]ice of my seruice shall be imployed for thee.
The Duke which noted her beautifull face, her kunde speech,
and affable countenance, held her so; noesse then shee seemed.
And without vsing any circumsta[n]ces, gave her entament;
appointing her a place neere his owne person: which kindnesse
she verie gratesfull accepted, returning many thankes for his
honourable acceptance.

Not long had our yong warriour remained in the campe,
whom in her attire we name Philipo, but a scallie was made
by the Citizens, whose bittalles waring scant, woulde gladdie
seeke all possible meanes to be quit of their enemies.

The

The larum in the campe giuen, all arm'd and in array, Phi-
lipo was not last, but mounted in very comely and braue ma-
ner demeaned hit selfe, venturing so farre in pursute of the ene-
mie to the gates, that shee was with her guide taken prisoner,
which the Millaine Duke seeing, commanding the forward-
nesse of his new entertained souldiour, sought to rescue hit. But
his ayde came too late. So sooner was the Ladie within the
Cittie, but carrying the shew of a Cauelere, she had god enter-
tainment, and well intreated. That night the Gouvernour
with his commaunders being pleasantly delighted at supper,
and euerie man recounting what seruice they had seene and
done that day, the captaine whose prisoner she was, acquainted
the Gouvernour what a prize he had that day gotten, leauing
nothing unremembered that might honour her, whome he
made reckoning would purchase him store of crownes.

The Gouvernour on this report of the Captaine, was verie
desirous to see this prisoner, yet for that night made little recko-
ning of it, in the morning early, his mind devising of his nights
resolution, accompanied with his best friendes, tooke his occa-
sion to walke by the house of signour Vincencio, where shee re-
mained, with whom he questioned of sundrie occasions. After
some frualous speach, he enquired for the prisoner, who was pre-
sently brought before him, whome he saluted verie kindly, re-
quiring him to say of what countrey he was, and what name
and parentage. Sir quoth Philipo, for so lette her be remem-
bered, what you are I know not, neither desire I to know, but
haue heard that lawes of armes allow not euerie man to ex-
amine, especially a gentleman. Therefore pardon me, for with-
out the gouvernour or his speciall authoritie, I will not acquaint
any with my estate, and so god sir quoth she rest satisfied. Sir
quoth the gouvernour, your peremptorie speach sheweth some
great mind, whiche I pray God proue so happye for your hostes
sake. If then I can entreate the gonerour to come or send for
you, wil you vouchsafe to acquaint him with what I haue re-
quired. True sir (quoth Philipo) you confirme my minde right,
for which I am beholding unto you. You are verie pleasant

P

gentle-

A pleasant Histore of the

man (quoth the Gouernour) which I wish to continue, & would gladly crane this favour, that I might on mine owne authoritie deuaund whether you know the gouernour, whiche you would see. Sir answered Philipo, the honourable gentleman yet I neuer saw, but in regard of his vertues and honourable commendations, I both loue and honour him.

Thankes (quoth the Gouernour) for your good opinion and report of him which you hold an enemy, but happily may proue otherwile, for which, if any haue any thing to say, either in secret or otherwile, speake as a friend, I am the man, vnworthishough I be of so honourable a place, wherefore if thou haue ought to speake, say boldly thy minde, for by the honour of that seate which I do now possesse, I will freely heare thee, and pardon whatsoeuer.

Philipo which saw how harshly she had demeaned her selfe, with a blushing countenance which might wel haue bewrayed what she was, humbly besought him of pardon for her shewing offence, protestynge by the honour of a souldiour, she had no knowledge of him, which the honourable gouernour belieuing and forgiuing, she sayde. Noble minded Gouernour, hearing of the wrongs offered you and your people, I craved pardon and leauue of my soueraigne the Empersour, to be partaker of your service, as well to right your iniurie offered you, as for the loue and dutie I owe this countrey where I had my being first, and tourneyng hither, intending what I say, was sodainly surprised by the Ambassadours of the Villaine Duke, who taking me at aduantage, there was small resistance, but yeelding me their prisoner, had entretaynement of the Duke, who vsed me most kindly, yet not content with his fauour, beeing enemie to your state, and heire of my late deceased Lorde Duke Phillip, in the last service I willitgly aduentured my selfe in that manner to come vnto you, and in signe of my loue and faith, though I be young and a straunger, whose credite yet is not requisite you should trust too farre to a time so daungerous, yet as I am a Gentleman (whiche title with my life I will for ever maintaine) bee ruled by mee,

AND

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and doubt not the suddaine remouing of your blusing enemie.

The Gouernour listening to her long discourse, noted her modest countenance and courage in deliuering the same, yet holdeing it vsedome to haue better knowledge of any man, whom he should trust in a cause of such importance, thanked her for his proffer, craving respit for his resolution therein. And so after some other courteous speeches, giving his word to his host for his libertie, hee invited him to his lodging, where hee was feasted with great welcome, the gouernour delighting much in his compaie and pleasaunt parley, which in their secret discourses, was for matters of state, touching the weale of her people, though the gouernours least suspect was of her, whose right hee gouerned. To her delight, being now in place of her most cheefest delight, we leauue her a time.

CHAP. XXVII.

How Alinda taking care to keepe secret her Ladie absence, demeaned her selfe,



Lynda the frust of her Ladie, and the fauorthfull secret keeper of her mistresse, after shee hadde carefully provided all things, and seene her horsed to her iourney, beganne nowe to deale in what a labouinthy of daunger shee had wrapt her her selfe, if ought shold betide her Ladie, but well to awyde her owne danger, and to free her Ladie of suspect, her subtile pate was not free from carefull Andie, which way shee might best keepe her secrets close, imagining sometime one way, sometime another, at length a moxe better presents it selfe to her memorie.

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But standing in an extacie, holding it wisedome not to be provided if occasion shoulde serue, she gaue it out, that her Ladie boying a long salt and secret, would not be seene or spoken to of her Alynda.

This plotte working effectually, Alynda orderynge as she was accustomed, went to visite the children, from whence she returning, she puruaid with her owne hand her diet, as for her Ladie's service, and then attyng her selfe in her Ladies attyre, would shew her selfe. In this manner continued shee without suspect of her Ladies absente, untill the Emperour pittyng the Lady, doubting least her long solitarinesse shoulde moue her to melancholy, and thereby some dangerous sicknesse might ensue, wh: n hee hadde often solicited her by her servant Alynda for the same, and received such answeres by her as hee liked not, moued with a kynde desire to see her, hee vowed that if hee left not her chamber by a tyme limittid, passing the bondes of honour, he would violently breake the doores vpon her.

This wind of furie made Alyndaes hearte cold, fearing her Mistresses honour shoulde not by absence bee questioned of, and her selfe without confession of her beeing whers shee might not bee knowne, in danger of the Emperours displeasure, and losse of credite and life: to annoyde all whiche, many wayes shee deuised, yet none safe enough, as shee thought: but as women haue alwayes some shifte, if it wers to deceiue the Duke, so Alynda deuised this meane, vnto her Ladie's confessor. In a morning earlye shee went, where after her, many pretie questions and aunsweres passed betwene them, Alynda to trye the constancie of this holy father, charged him on his holy orders, to say what hee would doo for her Ladie, in maintaining her honour and reputation.

The frier who thought on no such matter as the subtile Alynda, willing to make a shewe of zeale and dutie, protested by all holy vowe, that whatsoeuer rested within his power,

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power, he would gladlye effect for her Ladie, if the losse of life and credite depended thereon. This geare was sought little for Alynda's purpose, which shee thus answered. Holde father, well haue you said, in boying your selfe the fauour of a noble a Ladie, whose reputation and honor dependeth in your secrete: which seeing your holie vowe ought to keepe him in regards, both with God, and the world, you will reueale a matter most rare and straunge vnto you, and craue your counsaile in the same.

My Ladie (holie Father) hearing of the wrong offered the Gouvernor and state of Genoway, whose right the Duke domme is, inspired with courage, sprung from the lounes of a noble souldiour, and possessing the spirit of her louelie Lord, the knight of the holy Croesse, determining to trie her fortune in those warres, bound me by oath to her secrete intent, neuer soz forture of death or whatsoeuer punishment, to reueale her will, and noble determination therem: which done, and my holie past, she inoynd me to provide horse and armour for her with a guide. And so decking her selfe in the attire of a man, ande accompanied with a Gentleman of the Court, who knowinge her but for my brother, are gone for Genoway. State whose departure, my care beeing great to keepe her credite, haue given it out, as well to the Emperour, as to all other, that my Ladie hath made a holy vowe, and obserueth a fast for certaine weekes, in whiche tyme shee will haue no conference, or be seene of anie, but my selfe. But the Emperour dreading thoroowe her solitariness, some melancholike infirmitie, shoulde ensue, hath sworne, if shee come not abroade in a certaine tyme, to draine her perforce into his companie.

To salte all whiche, let me intreat you, by that promise you haue made, to morrow morning by that houre the Emperour doth vsually walke about his priuie garden, to come vnto the Court, where I wil attend you, and be your guide to her chamber, where my selfe disguised in my Ladies apparell, will with you feigning great conference, shewe vs at the windewe

A pleant Historie of the

whiche may bee both sent of his excellencie. By which
intimes, and how ther perwasion to his Maiestie, in tel-
ling hym what vengeance he shall treure of God, in frustra-
ting the holie vowe of anie religiouse made, he may bee
drawne to the dede to farre vnsenting his honour, and vni-
charitable. *Alma et ueritatem tuam dabo tibi.*

Well woman, (quoth the confessor) thy faith to thy La-
die, I admire (as well I may) so; as rare a matter is it to
see a woman of such secrecie, as a million of blacke swannes.
Thy widdes hath wonne mee to execute thy will, what thou
hast desired I will (God willing) performe. And I pray
that our deuises have as god effect for thy Ladie honour,
as thine heart wishes. In the morning expect mee, when
Thou sayng Amen, I will visite thee, vntill that time fare-
well.

Alynda seeing her widdes had effect to her wish, re-
turned hym many thanked for his courtesies, promising large re-
wardes for his friendship: which done, committing hym to his
deuout seruices, shew spedeth to her lodging, about her ordi-
narie affaers. Where we leane her till fitter occasion of the
Philippeserueth.

C H A P. X X V I I I .

Howe the feigned Philipo by good government and beha-
uour, obtained the good wil of the Gouernour, and what
chanced her in the fight.



Philipo having a care of finishing her
intended busynesse, sought by all meanes
to gaine the god will of the Gouer-
nour: so that leauing no occasion which
was offered, he alwayes tooke oppor-
tunitie to moue the Gouernour, by bat-
telle to trie the euent of their fortunes
But the Gouernour having lost manie

of

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of his compaines, expecting some ayde from his friends, de-
trated the time, in such manner, as Philipo weraed with
their linging, and respecting her promise with Alynda, find-
ing opportunitie, having the Gouernour at convenient tyme
and place to speake, thus she said.

Noble Gouernour if I might without suspect of bellarie,
or incurring your displeasure, boldy speake, I woulde then
make offer of my simple seruice to your honour, and your
peoples great god. The Gouernour whose affection had
wonne to like hym, willed hym to say what he woulde frede, he
woulde heare hym, and further his honest knytes to his best
power. Thankes, (noble Gentleman, quoth Philipo) seeing
you vouchsafe me this fauour, I see and note the great
distresse of your people, and pitie them, for whose release from
this captiuitie, and freedome from these enemies, I will ad-
uenture my boode in single combate, to trie my fortune with
the best man at armes in that surpised camp, if you dare
on the godnesse of your first quarrel, adventure your fight;
or if to this, you, or that proude enemie will not condic-
tend, by battell to ende the warres in this land, give me leue
to trie by policie, what effect God wyllyng maye have of the
actions of men will do.

The Gouernour hysing at the resolution of Philipo, whose
smooth face argued his yong yeres, and hys knyghtlye
marshall discipline, would not disfaile his forsworne. But
thanking hym for his frindly offer, recouerting hym, the
experience of warres he euer had, being knyghtlye
Sculdions amoungst them; so that his weareable, warfing
strength, was insuffisent to incouter the wox of many kny-
gards, and their policie nobly presented. *Per Genteman,*
(quoth he,) that I may not shewe any ingratiueth to you,
whose care and offer is such to our god; let me heare your
deuise, and as I like, we will accept or refuse it. Philipo verry
ing her ill successe in her stike, besought the Gouernour of
parday, knyghte of his honour hee vouchsafed to graunt her
his suite.

The

The Gouvernor saying his willingness, and what discontent he had at his demall, and dispaire of his god hap, hoping on God, which by the power of David, discomfited a moze huge armie, graunted his request. Whose wordes no sooner uttered, but hee might perceiue her hearts content by her chearefull countenance. After a small stay, little needing long premeditation, she saopt: Know (my god Lord) that during the time I remained in helde with the Duke, hauing an intent to do you and your self what god I best could, I gaue my studis to search the secrets of his campe, noting his whol order and maner in euerie thing, watching by night to see their obseruation, and in day to know their customes. In which times, I sawe how carelesly they demeaned themselves, wishing at some times your honour were acquainted with my thoughts: so with a small power might they haue beeene surprised. In hope of which (god my Lord) giv me leau to chuse vnto me, those whiche peaces require honour by their deserts, such Gentleman as I can increate to accompane mee, my selfe will gaine the attempt, entering first the campe, like a snyttine, hauing scollen from the Cittie, pretending honourable loue to the Duke, whome I haue with my signed latke so besot, as vntill heare me which done, and ruyne one or the dead of their sleepe; vndvng them late, I will with his Signet, comandme the Officers of the watch to giv me the wordes, pertayning the Dukes meaning to vse spacie watch secretly that night. These things falling out by light of a flameng Roche, I will give notice to my compaynie, whome I will met, and vnto them deliver the wordes, whiche he small compaines shal passe the vniuers of garme, vntill we come neare the Dukes armes. Lodging, I byre hauing some strength my selfe (on my life) will undertake to bring the Duke psoner and q[ui]cke fire (byreus hyspe, and God's afffiance) your enemies. Philipo, deuise (quach the Gouvernor) if it be as well prepared, whiche God graunt, to thy industrie (noble minded Gentleman) I comenent this seruice, and will my selfe rep-

sing

Sing ouer thy loyaltie: be readie at giving the signe, with ffe hundred of my truellis frendes to ayde the, the honor whereof, shall be Philippo, if we p[ro]uenale, then proceed wher thou shal best please.

Philippe, hauing his desire, and the gouerners god consent, attayned like a comanen souldoar, at setting the watch, issued the Cittie, commanding the successe of his seruice to G D D: for had he not gone from the Cittie, but taken by the enemies spylls, he craved access to the Duke, vnto whom after they had ruseled him, they brought him. As soone came hee to the presence of the Duke, but prosterating himselfe at his stete, hee sayth. Most noble Lord, and my dread soueraigne, pardon thy humble seruant, who by my ouerboldnesse, desirous to gains your gracious loue, so farre aduentured in pursuit of thy enemies: That beeing past rescewe, and the enemies number leesse, my strength fayling me, with the losse of much bloud issuing from my woundes, I was in haplesse time, taken P[ri]soner, where I haue there vner since remayned, vntill this time: I then slaying my keeper, taking his apparell and furniture, I thus escaped theyr furye, who for my harsh sp[ee]ches, vised in defending your noble reputacion, was doomed to bee shot to death by the soldisours. The Duke glad to see his safe returne with life, for whome he had great care, giuing him heartie thankes for his god loue, and daungerous aduenturing for him, and in his seruice, gave him a chayne of golde from his necke: commanding his Maister of the warden, to sute him presentlye in a rich sute whiche hee appointed: whiche done, seating him by his side, accompanied with the cheefest of his men at Armes, and nobilitie, hee discoursed vnto him much matter to theyr lyking: touching the miserie of the towne, assuring them on his life, before manye daies were ended, the comons in despite of the Gouvernor wold yelde themselves, if in time he and his accomplices sought not his highnesse fauour. With these pleasing sp[ee]ches, & often carrowing betwene the, at finishing of each storie, the night was well spent, Philippe for his welcome, was lodged on a Pallet

in the Dukes Tent: which done, and every man at his quiet, the Court of garde about the Tent, being hale a sleepe, as one that regarded his honour with the gouernor, seeing all sound, serched the Dukes pocket, where finding the signet, he issed out the Tent, commaunding the Captaine of his guard to send him the word, for that disguised, hee would walke that night about the Campe.

The Captaines seeing the Dukes signet, gaue him the word, which obtained, about his other busynesse he goeth, effecting all things as he wished. The Duke being fast, thrusting out his torche at the Tent doore, as though the Duke intended to visit the Ferrara Duke, which lay not farre off, he fained speeche with the garde, vntill he thought the Gouernors espyalls had seene the signe: Then making no longer stay, with a Holbarke on his neck, taking his way towards the Cittie, he past with the word without any molesting. The Gouernor which had hope in his champion, slept not his time, but with his horse, and many other a fote, attended the comming of Philippo, to direct them, which made all possible hast, and in god time to all their comforts, met the Gouernour: Unto whom he briefly delinred what was done, beseeching him to let his foyemen passe, by small companies, to a place by him assigned, whither he would conduct them, and at the allarome giuen, to make hast with his horsemen to their rescnew. The Gouernour having god hope of successse, commending his policie and resolution, appointed his men by him to be led, straightly charging them to be gouerned by him, who giuing them the word, marched on to a syde of a small hill, close on the backe side: the Dukes tent whers they stayed, vntill they, guide Philippo had appointed them what to do.

Philippo, applying his busynesses, bringing the compayne close to the Tent, hauing the Duke fast bound, wrapp'd him in his night gowne, accompanied with two or three god fellowes more of his crewe, with they, weapons drawne, drew him from his naked bed: with which awaking, and perceiving them straungers which were about him, he would haue cryed

out

out for helpe, which Philippo perceiving, thrust his gloues into his mouth, swearing by all holynesse, that if he spake anye worde, he shoulde presently haue his palport, to hell, which was the habitation of such vsurpers: Therefore willed him, as hee tendered his life, to bee silent, and his bodye shoulde haue no harme, which to do, hee was enforced: Taking what they woulde with patience, hauing him within they, power, they cutte the coardes of the Tent, and pulled him out vnderneath, hallowing him at they, owne pleasures: that done, leauing him in safe keeping, they gaue the allarome, killing and slaying without mercie. To whose ayde, came the watchfull Gouernour, who with his power, did such feates of Armes, that the whole Armie was discomfited, some fledde, byt most slaine. The Dukes with the principall were taken Prisoners, with many others, which were deliuered presently. But the Duke with his complices, hee sent vnto the Cittie, to take better assurance of his loyaltie.

Thus the policie of Philippo preuyling, and those Lordes of they, riches and provision, which they hoped to haue made they, Captives, the Gouernour sent vnto the towne, the happye successe of they, services, marching him selfe by easie paces, doeing Philippo all the honour hee coulde. Who being mounted on a beautifull Jenet of Spaine, led the two Dukes his prisoners.

The happye tydings of this honourable victo:ye suddainlye spred throughout the Cittie: great was the triumphing they made, where no solemnite was left there vneffected for honour of the same, every one lauding the policie of Philippo, and dooing him all the honour that might be devised.

To the exceeding greene and heartes discontent of the Dukes, who blaming they, light credence of a stranger, whome they never sawe before in thier liues, woulde on his wordes, vittered of purpose to serue his owne turne, admittre him to such favour and trust: but after warings comes too late. They are nowe to bee vied at the

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pleasure

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pleasure of the Gouernour, unto whom Philippo became an earnest sato, for they courteous entertainment, and hono-
rable usage.

The Gouernour, whose honour was increased by the in-
dustry of Philippo, imbrasing him in his Armes, committed
the whole estate of those Princes and Nobles, unto his direc-
tion: by whom he solemnly vowed to be governed, for which,
as one that could demeane himselfe to all estates like him-
selfe, hee returned many heartie thankes, and accepted his kin-
proffer.

CHAP. XXXIX.

How Philippo gave the sentence on the usurping dukes, and
the honour done at his departure.



Philippo, prayng God for his prosperous
successe, reioyleth nothe to bee with her
Alinda, whome shee greatly feareth might
encorre some daunger, by her long ab-
sence: to auoide which, shee besought
the gouernour of Iysence to departe:
pretending busynesses of great impor-
taunce. To whose sake, although wil-
lingly he would haue condiscended, yet with earnest intreatie
and loue hee bare him, he besought him to staye with him,
promising on the sayth and honour of a Gentleman, as him-
selfe, hee shoulde participate in all living Land and goods,
which hee had, or shoulde euer haue. For which Philippo ren-
dered many heartie thankes, but might not bee intreated: for
which the gouernour, as well as many other his followers, and
freendes, were heartily sorie, surceasing theye bookelesse sutes,
least theye importunitie might breed offence, yet they besought
him, to accept the rauisement of the prisoners which were to bee
disposed by him.

Whan Philippo saw the honorable minds of those his friends,
which

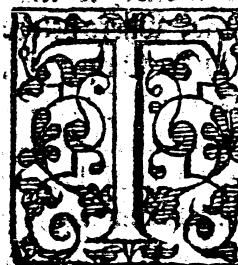
Knight of the holy Crofse.

which hee had god cause to loue, for maintaining his right,
and euerie way discharging the honourable parte of a trustie
subiect, loath that so great fauours should go vnrecompensed,
hee first on their allegiance to the rightfull heire of the
Dukedom, charged them streightly to fulfill what he should
giue in charge, being no disparagement to their honours and e-
state, to which they willingly agreed, confirming by oath what
he had set downe, and then saide, In performance of the words
you haue giuen, this shall you do, before this moneth is fully
expired, you shall in person repaire unto Rome, where before
the imperiall maiestie of my soueraigne Lord the Emperour,
you shall present these Dukes your prisoners, where I will re-
count your honourable deserts, and deserued commendations,
that your Princesse Vallia may reward your honourable ser-
vice. Till when, honourable Gouernour, weare this ring, by
which you shall finde me, if you forget the name of Philippo.
Which said, and the ring delivered, the gouernour wondering
at the grauitie and noble minde of the resolute gentleman, de-
uermore with his noble proffer, could not tell what way to re-
compence the leake of his deserts, but rendering him many
thankes, besought him in the most humble manner, to acknow-
ledge their dutys to their soueraigne Ladie Vallia, whose ser-
uadts hee vowed them in all loyaltie. These conditions agreed
vpon, and euerie thing with consent finished, the time appoin-
ted for Philippes departure, a band of sondiours were appoin-
ted for his conuay to Rome, the captaine of which compaニー,
having great charge for his honourable usage, unto whom ten
thousand crownes was delivered at their leaue taking of him.
The time of his departure being come, Philippo taking
a solemye farewell of the Dukes of Millaine and Ferrara,
with the other noble prisoners, the gouernour with the most
noblest of the countrey, conducted him on his iourney, of whost
when they took their leaues, many teares were shed: such was
the sorow for his departure, whome they had no knowledge
of. Whom after many leth farewels, wee leaue to his iourney,
accompanied with his guard and the gevernours, to manie

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honourable thoughts of this noble stranger.

CHAP. XXX.

How Philippo arrived in Rome, and what chanced Alinda.



He Gouernour having lost our noble Philippo, there needed none to hasten him, whose thoughts was of his Alinda, whom he had engaged for his returne. As time worketh many effects, so long trauell hath brought this noble ladie within one dayes iourney of the Cittie, her long desired place of rest, when calling the captain and his companions, hee discharged them from their further trauaile, largely rewarding them for their paines: where the Captaine was loath to leaue her, before hee had seene her in safetie in the Cittie: but when no perswasions might serue but they must needes leaue her, the Captaine making readie the gold, presented it unto her, desiring her to accept it as the gift of his loving friends of Genoway.

Philippo wondering at the bountie of the Gouernour, gaue them many thankes, but no entreatie might cause him to touch one penny, the Captaine on his part loth to offend the Gouernour againe to returne it, protested by his honour in armes, and faith of a sculdior, to leau it to his disposition. Whiche oathes Philippo was not willing he should violate, but measuring his honourable minde, received the Golde, the one halfe of which, he freely imparted amongst the Sculdiors, who accepted it without deniall, with many thankes, the other halfe betweene the Captaine and his guide he equally shared, unto whom yelding many thankes

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for his bountie, taking their leaues, they left him on his way to Rome, and they returned for Genoway.

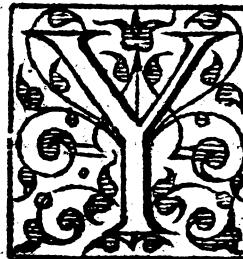
The time of her expected returne was now neare expired, wherein Alynda was to prove her wittes yet againe as shee had doone: whose curring by the god helpe of the Frier, tooke such effect, that the Emperour by his godly counsell was reclaimed from his intended purpose, although the Princesses absence wrought his great disquiet, yet patienting himselfe, hee was content with hearing of her good health, for which hee diligently enquired euerie day of Alynda, whome to quiet from further care or discontent, Vallia arrived at Rome, and taking her lodgynge in an Ostria, sent her guyde to the court in secret, to give notice to Alynda of her returne, willing her in the euening to mette her at the place where they last parted.

This tydings to Alynda was welcome, who was not a little comforted with that newes of her Ladys good successe, for which giuing GOD thankes for his fauour, and keeping and preseruing her in her iourney, shee awaighed with diligence the god howre of her Ladys home returne, where giuing her attendance, shee hadde not long stayed before shee hadde sight of her, the most welcome of the worlde. What ioy at theyre meeting there was, with theyre sundrie discourses, I drame, untill in quiet content shee was placed in her lodging, from whence after shee hadde discharged her guide, shee was not long absent, where beeing with her secret Alynda all alone, shee questioned her of all the chaunces that hadde happened since her departure from thence. Whiche answered, Alynda forgaue not to tell her the perplexed estate wherein shes was at the Emperours woordes, menacing her to see her Ladys, no occasions whatsoeuer to prevent him: with the policie shee vsed, and ayde of her confesseur. At whiche discourse the Princesse might not forbear heartily to laugh. What other prattle happened, imagine you Gentlemen, that are

are acquainted with woers merrie meetings, to let you heare more of Edward and his compaines, what in their tourney hap- pened them.

CHAP. XXVII.

Howe Edward accompanied with the Gouverour of the Rodes, and his Ladie hauing performed their rytes in the holy land, returned home, and what chanced.



On haue heard gentiles of the recouerie of the gouverour of the Rodes, by the noble knight of the Crosse, who gathering strength and some ease of his wounds, by the knight his god recure, arriued at y holly Citie, where they made their stay, doing such religioun ceremonies, as to bawed traualers appertaineth: where their welcome was great for the knights loue, whose honour they wished for the service done, in defence of the holly Citie. After the gouverour was well recovered, and all things to their content finished, the knight desirous to see his Ladie whom hee never heard of since their parting, causing their compaine to be ready to depart, and their attendant to puruay them of victuals, for prouision passing the mountaines: which done, taking they leaus of the higb priestis, and the cheefe of all the citie, who conducted them on they way, they traualied without any aduenture, vntill they came to the Cittie of Aleppo, where they stayed to refresh themselves. In this Citie, there was resident certaine Spanish marchants, who envyng the god countenancie of the knight, and the loue he was made him by the vice-roy there, moued with reuenge of his counte generall, slaine by the Knight of the Crosse, after their returme from the wars, seeking many wyes to intrappe him, and finding no cause or meane to accuse him of any ill, whereby to procure his trouble, hee consoled with his Janesaries, who were appointed

to

to wait on him by some pollicie to do him to death, promising great rewardes for his patnes. Whyn fact being committed, these hell-hounds whom no conscience moued to remorse, in hope of gaine, vndertooke the action. And vnder shewe of kindnesse and zeale to him that was a knight at Armes, intruded themselves into his compaine, admitting him to many banquets, the better to worke their willes on him, saking opportunitie to slay him, taking their occasion to quarrell for pledging a carous: which the Knight refusing, a sturre began betweene them, where he received many injuries, and some woundes, before hee offered any offence: when the multitude growing about him, and he unarmed, winding his Mantle about his arme, he refest from one of the Turks his semitarie, with which he made such way, that they helde themselves most happiest, that were farthest off.

The rumour of which broule, was noysed thowz the Citie, that thither they came from al parts, to take parts, and to be beholders of the fight. In which, after many deepe wounds gien, and many of the vngouverned Janesaries sent to hell, when he could make no more resistance, compelled by the heat of the place, and wearinesse of the fight, he yielded himselfe vnto the handes of the Iwac, chiefe Judge of the Citie, who promised him to bee his warrant from all men, that no daunger should betide him: on which promise he deliuered his weapon. The Spanish Marchant, whom they called Guido, standing on his house top to beholde this tumult, hoped well that the Knight had bin slaine, but it proved contrarie, at which he stymmed greatly, but more greeued to pay his promised summes, which for his life hee durst not denie, fearing the Janesaries should haue slaine himselfe. Which seconde greife, caused the traiterous Spaniard to sake his further trouble, vrging these Janesaries, to lay vnto the Knights charge, matters of treason in the state of the Cittie, thereby to cut him off by lawe, whiche hee, nor the best Caualeres of his Countrey, durst not looke in the face, in anie sort to attempt ought against him of force.

These Janesaries suborned by large gifts, wrought others to take part with them, who were neare the Viceroy, and the G.wo:, which vpon their reports summoned the Knight to their judgement hall, from the prison where hee lay chayned, vnto whome matter of great vnitie was obiecte, concerning the state, which hee stoutlie denied. But those Curres, which had soldz his life for money, stowing that hee had fauour to speake, offered to sweare by theyr holie Alcaron, that he with the rest of his confederates, viewing the Cittie in theyr secrete walkes, had taken notice of theyr forces, inquiring by circumstaunces, of such as they accompanied with, what numbers of men they had, and howe with bittailles they were relieved. These accusations so vheimently vittered agaynst him, the Viceroy coulde not but examine: and finding him guiltie of the same by theyr false judgement, sentence of death shoulde with all seuerite passe agaynst him.

The Knight seeing his cause daungerous, putting his hope on him that never left him comfortlesse, with a bolde vndaunted spirite, and as one that feared not their threates, knowing death was the worst, thus sayd. Reuerend fathers, Judges of mens causes, you haue here by your lawes condemned an innocent man to death, for no cause iustly offered, but falsely and vnlawfully by enuie, and of your owne imaginacions, wrought agaynst me. First, by force they pretensing loue vnto mee, in that place where they gaue mee bittailles, they sought to take my life from me. Their intended purposes that way failing, standing on mine one safetie and defencē, they haue here falsely accused mee of matter never thought on by me. But say (patrones of iustice and honour) that I shoulde haue viewed your forces, what may one naked man do, where are thousands of braue and gallant souldiours? If your wisedome woulde but in iustice list the cause, you shoulde then find the wronge offered mee, that am here a straunger amongst you: from whom I appelle to the Grand Seigniorie for iustice, or being a souldiour and a man at Armes, in your

Cittie, which are most men at Armes, let mee in combat trie mine innocencie. If to neither of these my lawfull suites you do agree, the woulde which heares of your vniust dealing with mee, will scorne your lawes, and to your greate reprofe, to report your wronges done a gentleman and a souldier.

The King which was a Runnagatho, an Easterling borne, and was not to learne the Christian lawes, and god naturite, hearing his resonable request, saide hee spake reason, and called before his accusers, vnto whom he said. Comtrinem and fellowes, you haue here on your wordes, brought a Christian and souldier to judgement, whom our lawes hath condemned by your reports, whether of truth, or in reuenge of some of those who lost their lives in the broile begun by you amongst your selues, we cannot say: but as I am apponited your gouernour, and expressly charged by his Emperiall maiestie, whose authortie I bear, to vse iustice to all men without fauor: in whiche, I hope I haue hitherto borne an equall hande, neither sparing my friends, nor fauoring my enemis: so in this case, you must vse what law of Armes requireth. Therfore this is my sentence, which if you be souldiers, and your cause iust, you may not doubt, that you two his accusers, shall in single combat (according to the lawes of our land) maintain your accusation by fight: for which, appoint your selues agaynst to morrow, or reuoke your words before the whole assemblie.

The Janesaries, who least looked for this fauor to be shewed a Christian, moued some other of their friends to vrgē against him the slaughter of those souldiers by him murthered, & iustice to proceed for breaking the peace in their citie, being the principall fort of the land, against the law of Armes: which the knight thus answered. Your grace hath heard y malice of those people, whose intent, if they may haue their wils, is my life, of which if your grace consider, that what I did was in mine own defencē and safetie of my life, having received sundry woundes, which are yet to be seene, before I offred any one a blow: if a wome having no fence, will turne being troden on, worthy of blame may not that man be, which will defende his life, who once lost can never be reculed.

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The king interrupting his speech, turning him to the accusers, said: You are to maintaine your evidence, attend your limited time, or confess your accusation false: which saide, hee committed the gard of the prisoner vnto a Captaine, to see him forth comming at the time appointed.

CHAP. XXXII.

How the Ianesaries loath to maintaine the fight, laboured the Spaniard to buy his libertie.



He faint-hearted Villaines, who had seen the feates of Armes done by the Knight, doubting their force, which was farre vnable to encounter a man of such worth and experience in Armes, fearing by theye soyle euer to bee dishonoured, perswaded the Spanish Guido, in friendship to make offer of loue vnto the Knight, who beeing a Christian, for a summe of money might deliuer him, threatening him, if hee wrought not some meanes for to free them from the combatte, they would discouer his pretended euill, and cause him for his treason loose his heade. The Spaniard vred at the heart, to see his busynesse take no better effect, perswaded himselfe of two euils to choose the least: without any moze pause taking, accompanied with others of his confederates in the action, sleeping no time, came to the Knight of the holy Crofle, whom with great shew of kindnesse, and many curtesies he saluted, shewing great sozow for the wrong offered, perswading hym to patience, for that there was no right to bee expected, from them, who sold their lawes, liues, and what soeuer for money. And (quoth the traitorous Spaniard) where such gouernment is, accursed is the land, but moze accursed the people: wherefore (quoth he) if you will be ruled by me, that am a Christian, and bound in conscience to relieu every man professing God, much moze a man of such estyme as your self, whiche with your life hath maintained

his

Knight of the holy Crofle.

his honour in many places, doing god to all people in distresse. Stand not on any thought of your being, or what you haue bin, but considering where you are, rather yeld your self vnto their fauour for money: without further triall or danger, I will undertake to buy your libertie. The(noble English man) prefer not money before your life: for being here, if you pruaile against your accusers, yet shall you euer go in danger of secret enemies which will not bee satisfied before they haue your life. I speake as a friend, whose welfare I esteeme. Therefore with wisdome censure of your god, by being counselled, or your peril by being too headstrong: if you accept of my profer, I will take order for your libertie, without any charge of yours: which don, you shal presently be transpored to Valencia, a famous citie of Spaine, my ship being readie fraughted for that place, attending but a sayre wind. The knight whiche during his long preambulation, had considered of his speech, he was perswaded by he spake but truth, yet could not iudge his secret intent, which made him that hee thought not of any euill to bee pretended by him that professed conscience and christianitie, making this account, that he were better howsoeuer, to be with Christians, then in the hands of such reprobates, being but a money matter, which by his friends, wheresoever he became, might shortly be provided. Wherefore, with many kind courtesies returning hartie thankes to his traitorous friend, he sayd. Kind friend, whose friendship offered I knowe not howe to merit, albeit my conscience perswadeth me I shall prosper well in the combatte, assuring my selfe on God, who protecteth his people, yet in regarde of these my followers heere present, as for my libertie, I accept your offer, which I will requite, causing the mightiest Prince of Christendome to rewarde thee with thankes, and my selfe with large summes, to satisfie thy debt: wherefore if you intende what you say, spedde about it, that I may know to what euent our friendship will sozow.

The Spaniard glad to heare his purposed determination grow to so god a passe, imbracing him, like a seconde Iudas, whom he sought to betray, besought him, not to dismay in any

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thing, for all the goodes he had were at his disposing. And so for that time taking his soleinne farewell, he left the Knight to manie conceited thoughts of his newe professed friend, him selfe speeding to finde the traitorous Janesaries, who were as saine of his god successe in his busynesse, longing to heare what would become of it, whether the Knight determined to trie the cause by fight, or otherwise by friendship ende it, as the next Chapter shall shew you.

C H A P. X X X I I I.

How the traitorous Spaniard Guido, compounded with the Bashaw for the Knights libertie, with his departure towards Spaine, and what then chanced.



Cuer was the tidings of pardon more welcome to the condemned prisoner, expecting death, then this god consent of Edward to Guido, who trailling in care as the painfull woman labouring with childe byrth, was in a moment freed from that painfull extacie. Where with joy neare overcomē, his tongue bewraying his hearts content, making small stay, but Iudas like (as a Spaniard practising treason) taking his farewell, hee looketh not behinde him, vntill hee came to the lodging of the Janesaries, unto whome he came not before he was long looked for: who resting in a quandarie, was as fearefull to trie their accusation by fight, as the Spaniard to abide the hazarde thereof, who noting Guidoes guifull countenance, their guifull mindes gan presage some good event. Beeing mette, as you heare, imagine Gentiles, whether there were anie questions left vndemaunded of the Spaniard, touching his late accomplished busynesse, which might tend to their welfare, or that the knight intended ought which might vrade their discredite. Of all which, when the Spaniard had at large resol-

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ued them, recounting from poynē to poynē each severall accident chauncing betwēne the knight and him, with what cōfesse he offered peace and friendship vnto him, whose death he most desired, cloking his villainie with such shewes of loue and friendship of Christianitie, they all laughing for great toy at the Knights simplicitie, and the traitours knauerie, spent the time froliking together, vntill the next morning, where in their quaffing & drunken discourses, a matter of more perill for the Knight was plotted betwēne them: whose heart being free from all guile, had not the least suspect of what was intended against him, as you shall heare hereafter, where the Historie recounteth it, and returne nowe to the Janesaries: who drunke with delight of their glad tydings, wished long for the sight of that joyfull day to ende all their doubts, which no soner appeared, but the Janesaries loath to be preuented in what they intended, spedeth them first vnto their commander the Gaw, and vnto him delivered the Spaniards suite, and the Bashaw which was for the deliverance of the Knight for rausome, beguiling the simplicitie of the Gaw, with the earnest suit of the Spaniard for him. And offering their god consents, so that therewith contented, omitting nothing which might give liking, or gaine the god will of those they sought, to theyz wish. All which reportes of them made, was so loched by Guido, that the Gaw, moued partly with pitie of the knight, and more with gaine of the Crolones offered for his freedom and libertie, calling for his companie, spedeth vnto the Bashaw, whome he found preparing himselfe with all his brierie to beholde the cōuenient of those Combatteres, who seeing the spedie comming of the Gaw, thought verily that they had beene alreadie attending for his presence, and beganne earnestlie to enquire the cause of his suddaine comming so earlie.

The Gaw which was wise and experienced, as besitteth his authority, besought the Bashaw to withdraw him fro the company when he would deliver what he had to say. Whi h done, and they all alone, Gaw delivered each particular whiche the Janesaries

Janissaries and Spaniards had moued him with all, with his opinion in the same, al tending to that those traitours desired: and the knyghts libertie, of all which when they had advisedly considered, although they could well haue given their consent to haue ended all matters, yet for fashyon sake, they called the rest of their comitell, who hearing the matter, stood not long on learmes, but called for the Spaniard, demanding whether the motion wer made by the knyght, or of any other of god wil towards him: which Guy do affirmed to come from the knyght, and besought him of fauour therein, vndertaking to pay the rausome, whasoever they would infit upon him.

At hearing of the Spaniards large proffer, silence was againe proclaimed, and the Spaniard dismissed, betwene them agreeing on the summe, and dayes of payment which they rated him: but howsoever the Spaniard must not for sake his woorde, least hee pay the pice of the rausome with his head.

This done, and the articles by them set downe, which the Spaniard must confirme, hee was againe called, unto whom the Bashaw sayde. Signior Guy do, tholde goods parts and discrete carriage of your selfe ever since your comming amongst vs, we haue diligently noted, as your selfe in all your busynesse haue founde more then all other strangers, and as to soze, so nowe in this motion you haue made for the release of this Christian, whome although our lawes haue condemned for a fact not to bee tollerated in anie, yet at thy earnest request, and motion of those his aduersaries, it is concluded, that for his libertie you pay tenne thousand crownes, the one halfe instantely, and the other at your next returne of shippynge from your countrey: which done, and hee delivered, you shall awarrant his departure with his companions: the first sayre wande to carrie your shippynge hence, or otherwise on his longer stay to be again apprecheded, and iudged as before, to endure the penaltie of death, as alreadie without further triall. To these conditions if thou agree, prepare thy money, and day the Combat, which must otherwise presently proceede.

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The Spaniard which had all that hee expected, having his life and possession of him whom hee hated decay, humbly thankynge the Bashaw for their fauour, thought the pice was high which hee was for his pretended treasons was inoyned to paye, setting a counterfeit ioy on his greued heart, hee departed to his lodging, where, by his owne store, and his Countrey mens ayde, hee furnished the same which hee presently paide, and had the Prisoner delivered, whom hee most kindly intreated, feasting and ioying with him, so long as hee remained with him, how vile soever hee intended hee shoulde bee vsed at his departure. In which time, came the shipp, as I haue alreadie tolde you, stayed of purpose for his deliuerance, to carrie him from thence. Whereof, how glad soever the Knight and his company was to bee freed from the daungers of those helhoundes, yet was his exchaunge little amended, as you shall heereafter knowe further. Onely nowe heere resteth to shewe you his embarquynge from thence, what successe his hadde, and of his trayterous usage at sea, by Guy does command, you must a while pardon, to heare of the Arriuall of the Gouvernour of Genowayc, with the rest of his nobilitie at Rome.

CHAP.



CHAP. XXXIII.

How the Gouvernor of Genoway holding his word with the counterfeit Knight arrived in Rome, and of theyr entertainment.



I is here remembred, that Vallia in her Knights attyre, after she had by her policy and valour freed her commons and countrey from the tyrannie of the Dukes of Florence, as you haue heard, inioyned by solemne oath, the Gouvernor and the peers of the Countrey, to appeare before the Emperour, who in the behalfe of the Princesse Vallia shold require their faithfull trust.

The Gouvernor regarding his honour, but more his easie, when he had settled all things in good sorte, he paide his owne heuldiours, and richly rewarded his forraigne frendes, with the spoyle of his enemies, to every mans good content, having paruaded a rich and most sumptuous trayne to accompanie hym : taking good order for the state and welfare of his commons, attended with the cheefest Lords and gentles of the countrey, he left the Cittie and by easie iournies, passed on the way to Rome beguiling the wearinelle of theyr iourney with sundry pastimes and spors, vntill they came by long and diligent traualle to drawe towards the Cittie, when by theyr messengers, they aduertised the Emperour of theyr comming: vnto whome they all were most heartilye welcome, as was manifest by the fauourable and kinde entertainment of theyr tydings bringer: Whome the Emperour most honourablye feasted, dooing hym all the honour that coulde bee deuised. With this newes, the Emperour could not bee quiet vntill he

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hee hadde aduertised the Princesse Vallia with the same: Who knowing better then the Emperour, the onely cause of theyr comming, settled a shewe of much gladnesse at the hearing thereof: then questioning the occasions that brought them thither, wherewith the Emperour was nothing acquainted.

The Emperour when he had emparked his newes to the Princesse, summoning his state, and principall of his most honourable counsell, gaue straight charge, for the royall entertainment of those states, in the most honourable and best sorte that might bee deuised: taking the like order, that all things with such company as hee appointed should bee ready. The next morning by rising of the Sonne, they were hysed to meeke those noble straungers on the way, which accordinglye was done in the most gallantest order that euer coulde be deuised.

This done, sending theyr currieres before to give notice of theyr neare approching, they left the Cittie, ryding neare, vntill the sonne had brought the mid day to an ende. At which time, the first intelligencer gaue woorde, they had discryed them within tenne miles: and so as on their iourney they dwelle neare, they were euer aduertised, as time bringeth the masters of most moment to ende, so these states had ende of theyr desires, time and traualles bringeth both companies, in viewe one of the other, to their great delights: at which enter viewe a pleasure it was to beholde the yousfull troupe of nobles and gentles, how gallantly they demeane themselves, doing many braue and commendable feates on their horses, on both sides deseruing such praise as was admirable. In this sorte doing theyr kinde courtesies they passe by eyther compayne, vntill the governour meeke the Emperour: vntill presenting hymselfe on his knee, hee dwelle neare the Emperour offering to kisse his syrope: which in no wise the most courteous Emperour woulde suffer, but taking hym with great loue and honour from the grounde, bid hym often-

A pleasant Historie of the

times heartlie welcome to these confines , which shewes of loue, the Gouernour and his people very well accepted , in such manner , as the ioy thereof enforced them to shedde many teares.

This done, and every þþoleman and Gentleman haue don the like , enquiring the principall of the Gouernours trayne they equally matched themselues , and passed on theyz way, discoursing very louiringly of many pleasant matters , vntill they came to a Castle of the Emperours , called Forte Vencencio : Where that night they were most royally feasted, with all delicacye . The next daye , after theyz repast taken for theyz breakfast , they left that place, proceeding on to the ende of their wearie iourney , ryding so long , and with such pleasure, that they had sight of that Cittie . The situation whereof, they admayzed to behold , with the beautie of Churches, and state of the houses, of horour: but that which most pleased theyz delights, was to beholde the most beautifull Riuier Tybres from whose flowing stremes , so many pleasant Creekes were filled, and whereon floated so many huge ships, of estensiue worth , and whereon shewed the Emperours flate of Gallyes , who seeming to bee enironed with the assayling enimies, most pleasantly, and full of warlike policies, laye battering one the other , with their ordinaunces , and as the aduantage was offered, here they entred , and toke them oþhers they fired : and the Conquerours tryumphing, brought the oþhers awaþe Captiue , after the manner of the See.

No sooner hadde this pleasaunt fight left theyz labour, wherein euerie one tooke great pleasure , passing on there of discoursing, every man speaking his opinion of the honourable fight , and commanding the manner of the same , and god performance of the leaders , when sudainlye Ambushed on a greenes side , where they were assayled by a companie of souldiors, which came to give them welcome in like sort: from this Ambuscado , discharged they their ordi nance, and after issued, bzauelie assailing the horsemens, who so

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dainly were encouerted by another companie , which in like manner first played on them with their field ordinance, and after spent some time in shewing their agilitie and nimblenesse in discharging their shots, doing many notable and commendable feates of armes, to the great ioy and cheering of their wearied spirits. That pastime in like manner ended, the soþlets casting themselves by their captaines comandement into warlike rings, marching close to the stirrup of the Emperour, and the Gouernour , discharging their þþeces in their march with great cunning, they bidden the strangers all heartily welcome, who with great content and courtesie, returned them all most heartie thanks.

This shewe with excellent commendations of all beholders performed, the souldiors marching with their colouris display, conducted the Emperour and his troupe to the cite, where with other solemnre shewes they were by the Senate and States, as well abbots as other þþer of authoritie, both spirituall and temporal, as for the bulwarke in whose cryes and voyses of ioy might well perswade those strangers for whose sake they were assembled, to be all welcome to them, as to their loueraigne. In this content they arrived at the royall court of the Emperour , where their Princesse Valtia accompanied with a traine of beautifull Ladys, gaue them many heartie welcomes: unto whom in all humble acknowledging their loues and duties, by their shewes of obedience, they were all conducted to their severall lodgings, royally feasted by the Emperour and his nobilitie, during their stay in the citie, of which you shall heare more as it shall be required: leaving them to their pastimes & severall discourses of their common wraþe , and state of their countreyes, with the princes to tell you further of the knight, and his hard entament at the sea.

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CHAP.

CHAP. XXXV.

Howe the Master of the shippe, by the commandement of Guydo their Marchant, chained and imprisoned the knight, and what chanced him,



So it hath beeene in the former history declared of the knights departure to the sea, where they had not long beeene, and they from the shore scantly looking sight of the shippe, but the master which had his lesson before, calling vppre his compaines together, willed them to follow him into the cabine, and there to chaine the knight, which hee sayde hee most doo for his and their securitie. The compaines, whose loue the knights counte hee hadde generally gauned, hearing this intended euill against him, who wished them all well, beganne to perswade the master from this intent, which would not heare them, but prosecute his will, although to his great cost, as it after happened, for the master whome no perswasions might entice from his rigour, having the chaine in his hand, entred the cabine, with hym other officers of the shippe, and without saying any word vnto hym, violently layde handes vpon hym.

The knyght wondering to see this vnderpected wrong offered hym, who suspected no such matter, and not knowing their pretence, force perforce grasped with the Maister, and luying his chaine out of his hands, gaue hym so soze a blow on the head, as his braine was therewith besprinkled, and hee lay gaping for that which hee never more obtained. The booke Swayne and some others of the chefe, who were acquainted with the treason, seeing they Maister slaine, assaulted the knyght, entending with great tyranny

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to revenge his death, and to make him fall as they hadde promised: but to easse a reckoning made they, for he was more of account then millions of the slaves, as with theyr limbes they were compelled to witnesse, for when the knight who took them all for friendes, sawe their intents of euill, and could imagine no cause, defending himselfe, hee so manfully bare hym, that to the diuell hee sent them all to accompanie him.

When hee had made way in the cabine, and cleared hym selfe of those that there assailed him, taking one of their weapons, hee rushed violently out vpon the rest, who fledde like cheape from a dogge: such was the power of an Englishman in multitudes of Spaniards.

By this tyme the Page and the knyght of the Roades who by trecherie was clapped vppre in a cabine, hadde made way for themselues, and with such weapons as they coulde gette, was come vnto him, who noting the timorousnesse of the base villaines, sayde. Unfaithfull Spaniards, more bruit then beasts, more cruell to Christianitie then the enemies of Christ: what wrong haue I offered you, that thus you goo about to bereauie mee of life, whome I loved so dearely: But seeing you base gromes (quoth hee) thus haue without cause mooued my patience; I will not leaue one mothers sonne of you all aliue, to declare your haplesse tragedyes, vntille you acknowledge your guiltinesse, and timely recouer vnto mee the originall of this mischiese, which doo, and save your lives, or otherwise prepare your selues to follow those traytors that lie before you.

The poore Harriners which were as sorie for the wrong which was offered as himselfe, greeued, humbling themselfes at his feete, besought hym of pardon, and not to impute the blame of theyr Maisters crime vnto them, for quoth they, we are his hirlings, unacquainted with anie intended euill agaynt you whom we all honouer and was glad of,

if our master had any such charge by the Marchants, or otherwise had any motion of his owne free will to offend you, that is altogether unknowne. To shew our innocencie herein, behold his forme that lately commanded vs, him before your eyes will we with all crueltie intreate, thereby to find the occasion if we can. And then taking the boy they stripped him, and tyng him to the breech of a pece, with cordes, whipped him, to make him confess what the cause was of the wrong offered by his father to the knight. But for any crueltie they could shewe, he would not confess neither his fathers intent in the action, or where the Marchants letters were bestowed, wherewith the knight was satisfied, and commanded them to rest satisfied: but they which were well vsed to the boyes subtillie, threatened him with death, without hee confessed what they had required, which oblidately he euer rested, vntill a bold and merci lessie villaine, which in despight of the boy, moys then of trust to the knight, heating oyle boylong hot, had dropped his naked skinne therewith, which torment the poore boy no lenger able to endure, kneeling, cryed out for mercie to the knight, and hee would not onely deliver the letters, but his armoy and wepons, so that his life might be saved. At which words, y knight commanded them to cease their crueltie, promising on his word of honour, that no man shold doo him wrong, but hee would protect him, so that he performed what he had promised, and thereon ceasing their punishment at the knights commandement, they expected now to be satisfied from him, what shold cleare them from all iealous doubts, wherein the knight helde them, for his harsh and bad entertainment, which made them hasten the boy to his busynesse, vrging him to that taske which he was verie loth to be drawne vnto, but perforce compellid vnto it, he caused the knight to defende the holde of the shipp, wher inclosed in a huge drifat, he found his armoy & all other his abiliments, and furniture for his bodies defence; in which a packet of letters was inclosed, directed to an honourable person, neare alyed to the Spaniard slaine long before, and master to this Guydo, his last hatefull enemie. The sight of al

which,

which so moued the Knight to pleasure, that forgetting all other occasions, or minding his Pocket, he ioyed onely in possessing his armes, causynge the boy to be fress from his bondes, and with god stoe of crownes rewarded him.

Now Gentles is to bee remembred, the carefull loue of the Knights Page, who seeing his maisters small regard of those Letters, closely conveyed them into his Pocket, without acquainting any man with them, longing to knowe the contents, yet loath to make theye secretes knownen to anie man.

In this Labyrinth of discontent rested the Page two dayes, and more, being verie desirous to knowe the effect of those lines. At last fit oportunitie being offered by one of the compaines, who in the watch singling the Page, which was euer wakefull for his Knights welfare, he besought the Page of fauour in commanding an earnest suite hee had to his master, whith himselfe durst not viter. To which the Page willingly agreed, on such conditions as hee bound hym vnto. One of the Articles of which was, that hee shold saythfullie reade, and interpret vnto hym truly, either in Italian or French, whiche the boy best vnderstode, the true effect of these Letters: And having read them faithfully, with great secrecie to conceale them without rreualing the least worde, syllable, or letter therin contained.

This done, and his solemne oath for performance made by all holy rites that Spaniards use to swear, hee brake the seales, and read the contents of the chiefe, touching our master, and the knights occasion of further trouble.

To the mightie and most honoured Knight Don Philiberto,
Duke of Medina, Lord high commaunder of the forces of
the most Catholike King of Spaine, in all his warres, king-
domes, Islands, and al other his territories, and one of the knights
of the hōle Cōtie of Rhodes.

Most mightie Prince, carrying a longing desire to doo
your highnesse seruice, and many waies bending my
studious affaers for some matter of acceptance, to your
excellencie. It happened in this citie of *Alexandria*, to arraie
this English homicide, a fugitiue from his Country, who ma-
king no conscience of murther, killed that most renowned
Generall your Nephew at *Rome*, after the last warres of the
Christian Princes against the Souldan *Don*.
Whose death, to my harts great griefe I write, I haue often
seen your highnesse with teares to lament, and our most fa-
mous king bewaile, of whose blood none could euer yet suf-
ficiently be reuenged, albeit, there hath sundry attempts bin
giuen: whereof with aduice and good regard, consideringe,
finding him in the Cōtie of the Turks, where I now remaine,
as well to requite the wrongs done to that noble Prince by
him slaine, as to shewe my dutie to your excellencie, I
first practised with large expence of crownes to accuse him
of treason to the state here, and by suborning two periured
Ianesaries, maintained the action, for which hee had iudg-
ment of death by their lawes: yet by the Bashaw, and other
chiefe ministers, he had grant of combat against the Ianesaries,
in triall of his innocencie, wherein the Ianesaries quailed
in courage, though I offered great summes for their per-
formance: but they dreading the event, or stricken with feare
of his puissance, who shewed himselfe at the time of his ap-
prehension, more like a diuell then a man, deoing manie
to death, would not by anie offers of Crownes be woonne
to continue what they had begunne, but enforced mee with
threates, in such manner, that fearing mine owne life, if

my

my pretence should haue beene knowne, I faigned a shewe
of most kinde Christian loue vnto the English churke, and
woonne him by my protestations, to become a futor to the
Bashaw, for ransome to redeeme him, aduisinge him as a
friend that wished him well, how deepeley soever in my heart
(for the causes aboue remembred) I hated him deadly: all
which my faigned friendships he accepted for currant, and I
gained his good liking to compound for his ransome which
I haue paid, amounting to the sum of ten thousand crownes.
And for prooef of my loialtie to your excellencie, and dutie
to your noble house, make him my present vnto your high-
nesse, with his page and other associates, his armor, weapons,
and what he else here had, not doubting but your excellency
will acquit your roiall blood by him traitorlike shed, or sa-
fie you and them by his death, in most extremitie, or in his
wretched endeesse ilauerie, which all the race of your noble
house heartily required. And so resting a faithfull suppliant
to your familie, and whole ale, and a hatefull ememie to all
of that diuelish nation, of which he is discended, I comit your
excellencie to your honorable wil, and cruel torment of this
hatefull English wretch. From *Alexandria in Affryca*,

Your highnesse in all truthe and loialtie;

Guydo Fredericano.

The Page, whose heart burned with extreame griefe to
heare these conspiracies against his Lord, and was assurid
hereby, that all their troubles proceeded from that canker of
humanitie, & traitersus Spaniard, their most supposed friend,
powring such teares like riuers, which restrained his tongues
liberte of speach, after hee had a while bethought him on this
wretched Guydo, envying agaynst that Cyper, and his Pa-
tron, he sayde.

Treacherous and most execrable homicide, scorne of men,
and sonster of Christianitie, whiche under shewe of truthe
hast

hast hatched such damnable treason, Villaine that thou art, in place where all them that protest God is hated, and wheres loue of Christ and Christians should bee most holilie regarded, there to conspire the death, defame, and subuersion of a man so honourable and fationous as this most noble and well deserving Knight: for which (perjured wretch as thou art) Gods vengeance shall sufficently requite it, and all those thy abettors and fauourits in this stratagem, false and dissembling Spaniard. And thou my most renowned master, princely Lord Edward, howe simple wast thou in crediting so lightly a slaine of no more worth then this vilde miscreant, harbouring in thy simple breast the serpent that sought thy life, not like a man in anie valorous manner, but like a Spaniard, by treason and subuersion of perturrie, for money, buying and selling him, whose worth is more worth then Spaine, and all whatsoeuer is resident within the territories of that accursed Nation. But why spende I time exclaiming on thee and them that sought my Lordes life; and acquaint not his honour with those practises of this slauē borne Spaniard, this Iudas that betrayed the life of this so renowned Knight, that hee knowing the treasons conspired agaynst him, may first on these Villaines of that crewe and cursed fellowship, bee extrimely reuenged, and after on all those Vipers, till hee hath rooted from the earth all such as carrie but the name of Spaniardes: so shoulde the brode and syng of treason bee pallid vppe by the rote, and thosc aspiring enemies, which stiche by treacharie to invade Kingdoomes, and by coynie to dralwe subiectes dutyes from theyr Soueraignes, buying Kinges, and Countreyes for money, be layde open to their cursed and diuelish practises: from whose deceiptes, fayre promises, and high conspiring treasons, God kepe euerie English heart, confounde in his wrath all those practises they infende agaynst the state, and comonons of my blessed and peaceable Countrey England. Whiles he was in his iuuie agaynst Spaine and Spaniards, the Knight whome regarde of his welfare kept from sleepe, hearing all quiet abroad,

abroad, and the night calme and fayre, left his loathsome Cabin to take the ayre, and comming vnto the Page, heard the conclusion of his long perambulation: with which he desired to be acquainted. But the Page on the suddaine being taken, though he would, could not colour with any shew those practises. But drawing those letters, whose contents he so lately had knowledge off, besought his Lord with very earnest suete to peruse them, and as he found, so to take heede how he or any Englishman hereafter, trust any trayterous Spaniard. The Knight musing what moued the Page to these humours, retayned againe to his Cabin, calling for a light: read their contents, which moued his patience, and cloyed him with melancholie, to which we leaue him.

CHAP. XXXVI.

How the Gouvernour and Nobles of Genoway, in triumph before the Emperour had knowledge of their Champion Don Philippo, and what chanced.



Thath been recounted, of the honourable entertainment of the gouernour and his company, with the honours done them by the Emperoz, who in fauour of the Prince Alinda, graced them with all the kindnesse and hono: that might extend to strangers and the subiects of his beloued friend: These noble strangers renowned in the Court, passing the time with all honorable pastimes, night and day, which could be devised. Many waies by their own fauourers and followers, they diligently enquired of their champion Philippo, as well to thanke him for his seruice, unployed for their god, and freeing them from their enemies, as to grace him with the Emperour, by their god reportes of his deserts, which albeit they had often acquainted the Emperour with

A pleasant historie of the

with all, yet was not that sufficient recompence as they thought, for a man of such worth, and his desert. This straungenesse of the knight caused many doubts to arise among them, for that hee had ioyned them on their honours to make theyr apperance before his Imperiall maiesie, and he absent, whom they with such louing desire wished to see. But if they grew perplexed therat, tudge the Emperours discontent, who measuring all honourable actions, especially theoward adventuring souldiour, was more moued at his silence and concealing himselfe then the rest, and the more so that his service in a time of such daunger and hazard of the whols seignoerie, hadde for his friends benefit and god of the whole Dukedom, beene so employed, that amongst his cogitations and thoughts of discontent, ioyed in hearing the honourable aduentures of the knight, so largely recounted.

Lefft thus in an exalte, often mouet to melancholie, through the knights absence, whom he more desired to know, then to enjoy great riches, the nobles and hee in their secret conference many wayes deuised howe they might attaine what they so earnestly wished, in the ende, after manie imaginacions howe to effect their purpose, the Emperour beeing verily perswaded hee was not of his Court, that hadde for honour of his excellencie fauoured him with Title of one of his Knights, for that by their description hee coulde enquire none such, to bee resident in the Cittie, or might for any enquirie finde any hope of, never knowing him, yet as the dairous minde louing to effect his purpose, leaueth no way vnstrachted, howe hard or unlikely soever.

The Emperour behought him to proclaime a generall challenge at armes, appoynting great prizes for them that best deserued them, belieuing verily that if hee were cypher in his Court or his regiment, hee coulde not beeing a man at Armes, holde himselfe in secret from a place where honour was to bee gayned: Her of the whole estate concluding, Beaulds were dispatched to all Cities within the empire, proclai-

ming

Knight of the holy Crofie.

ming very diligently the triumph which was to be holden before the Emperour, at tilt, turney and barriers, with their severall pases.

Alinda which had often conference with the nobles of her countrey, tooke great pleasure to heare them discourse the honour of the knight, which although she could better acquaint them with, yet to shewe a minde of honour, shee willed to know him, to the ende she might reward him: but all in vaine, the time was not come vntill shee pleased to reveale her selfe.

The time spending limited by proclamation, for those that intended to shewe their forces, and gaine honour, brought from all places Princes and Nobles of great account, euerie one like themselves, desiring the Emperours grace, spared no charge, as well in sumptuous furnishing they retinew, as in their excellent deuises, and shewe of rare and incomparable wealth, which greatly pleased the Emperour to beholde, who longed for the day wherein hee might see the issue of this devise, and ende of his hope in knowing the knight.

The princiſſe Vallia, whose head was not idle, deuising what shee might best do for her honour, and satisfying the Emperour and those nobles who loued and honoured her in her melancholy dumps, called vnto her Alynda her trutlie servant, and to her disclosed the great desire of the nobles and the Emperour to meeete the knight, which had with such honor behaued him in their wars, earnestly intreating her, as before in many erigents, now shee would bethinke her how she might in the assemblie shew her selfe, and escape vnknowne. Alinda which was not vnaquainted with the princiſſe conditions, fel her presently, and bethinking helve deſirous shee was to shewe the noblenesse of her minde, tooke that charge vpon her, assuring the Princiſſe that if shee would bee ruled by her, shee woulde nowe shew her minde heerein, and against the time, though it were but short, furnish her with all things necessarie to her content: at which content of her

her Alynda, without whome she was not her selfe, embrasing her, and after so[me] ioy kis[s]ing her cheeke[s], shee gaue her manie thankes, and many bountifull promises of reward, which was as much as Alynda required, whose care was wholly to winne and maintaine the Princesse loue unto her, as by her dutifull loue and seruice was euer shewen.

CHAP. XXXVII.

How the Princesse, by Alyndas helpe, was furnished like a Knight at armes.



Wh[en] followeth gentles) that I recount vnto you, the care and great regard of Alynda for the Princesse, who vsed such diligence, that against the prefixed time of tourney, the princesse was puruaide of al needfull things, horse, armour, launce, and curceler, fitting the most accomplished knight in those confines.

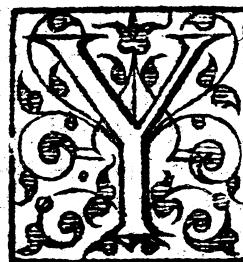
The princesse seeing all thing so exquisite puruaide, high in her heart commended her trustie seruaunt, whose kindeste and loue shee valued of moxe esteeme then all the treasures the earth can afford, contemplating some time on the woorthinesse of a faithfull friende, and the deliuernace of a seruaunt: shee called sodainely her Alynda vnto her, vnto whom she said. Alynda, fau[or]t[ul] and kind Alynda, in many experiments and great occasions I haue found thy leualtie and trust such, that my studie are wholly how to requite thee, wherefore my trust (quoth the princesse) and therewithall embracing her in her armes of tender loue, bedewing her cheeke[s] with teares, willed her to aske wh[at]souer was in her power to give, & she shuld haue it. Alynda which saw her Lady in this humaor, thought she looked so no lesse then was then offered, rendering thanks for her gracieus opinion, with pretie conceited parky put off their talke for that time, beseeching her to make

make triall of those things which she had promised, wherunto the princesse agreed.

Alynda first opening her Crunke, suted her first in a doublet and hose: that done, arming her in all poynts, sh[er]e seemed second to none, but a knight of as great woorth as any. What severall speches of commendations passed at her arming, I omitte, lete Ladys which for recreation sometimes amongst themselves vse like merriment, censure of the rest, onely I shall recount vnto you Alynda her forgetfulness, that hating all other things beseming what she had undertaken, wanted a shield with some devise to present his imperiall matessie, as the manner of men at armes is. This forgetfulness Alynda in her selfe greatly blamed, that prettily excused her selfe to avoyde blame, whch the princesse with a pretie iest put off, saying both their heads together for performance of their went, and fitting their devise answerable, first letting vayne one thing, then another, all seeming god and verie effectuall, yet everie severall counsell surpassing other, they were doubtfull whch to except, standing thus astoried, Alynda, which was euer at the dead list most sharpest witted, thus sayd. Madame, your grace hath many times carried god and gracieus opinions of me, which I desire may euer be continuued towards me, if now my credit may be such with you, referre this charge vnto me, and doubt not but it shal be effectuall to your content. Me[n]t[er] Alynda quoth the princesse, I take thy word, and on thy care relie, be it as thou wyl: so disarming her selfe, and arayng her in her owne attire, accompanied with her ladies and Gentlewomen of her honour, entred the presence, where shee found the Emperor and those nobles of Genoway, vnto whom she was most heartily welcome: whom to their pleasant discourses we leane, to tel you further of Alynda, and her carefull regard of her promise to the princesse.

CHAP. XXXVIII.

How Alinda against the prefixed time of triumph, presented her Lady in the appoynted place of triumph, and what chanced.



Du hau heard gentles in the forme chapter of the princesse fortunate meeting with the nobles in presence of the Emperour, wherein was many discourses as occasion was offered, but among al, whether serious matters for the state, or iole joyng prattle to beguile time, the remembrance of Philippo, the knight so much of the Genoway nobles applauded and honoured was never forgotten, for whome they oftentimes with teares, dispairing their tender cheeke, bewayled his want of company, and moe greeued for that they all doubted of his welfare, by reason of his breach of promise with thm, not shewing himselfe to them, which came onely of purpose to reete him there. But to our matter.

As time nor tyde stayeth not, so the long desired day is come, whercin those noble personages, wherof the numbers was great, that from al princes courts wher they there assembled, must trie their forces, amongst which there wanted nothing, whch to honour and armes appertained, each thing with such cost and diuerstie of deuises, as not onely the rarehelle of the shewes delighted, but the cost and exceeding richnesse was moe admired, so that a general plaudite was given the Emperour for his bountie, curtesie, & exceeding cost.

These things ordered, & all other needful matters besitting the time and the place. The princesse which were before appointed to bee princwall beholders of these passynges, could not draile with what cunning deuise to bring her deuices to effect,

effect, for which shee grew so melancholike, that her neareste attendants durst not come neare her, fearing to offend her. These passions Alinda well noted, and sought many wazes in her subtle shifing head, to disburthen her Lady of those great greeves: so long deusing, that shes thought no way so sufficient as to cause her cunningly to counterfeit some distemperature of her bodie, and hereon resolving, without acquainting the Princesse therewith, shee presently sent wode by the Princesse Squire to the Emperour, of the ill distemperature of the Princesse, whome shee willed further to say as occasions were offered and questions demanded, of the manner of her agonie, to tell him, that about the middell of the night, all being in their dead sleep, sodainely the princesse started out of her bedde, running about the chamber like one lunatike, crying nothing but on her Lord, Edward, Edward, of Engleland, bitterly crying and exclaiming her Lord Edward was slaine, that shee would come to avenge her on those miscreants that had murthered him.

With this message the gentleman being parted, hastened to the Court, and came so earlie, as none of the priue chamber were stirring, yet made such meanes as hee best coulde to deliuer his message, which no sooner the Emperour heard, with the manner and straunge efficacie of her maladie, but nearely touched with the vnhappy hearing therof, hee called for his apparrell, and sending for his learnedest phisitians, hee questioned of the occasion of the princesse greefe and vnaccustomed agonyes, wherewith they were all astomed, yet taking advise amongst themselves, diversly censuring the occasion, they deliuered thyz opinions thus, that the princesse often meditating on her Lord in his absence by some fearefull dreame, might bee in her sleepe combred, and doubted not after some quiet rest, but shee shoulde recover her health againe. This comforted the Emperour, who moe regarded her health then all the worlde, of such tender affection was his loue to the Princesse planed.

Show Alynda that had platted her deuise vntakynge to the princesse, when she had sent her messenger away, came unto the Princesse, and vnto her deliuered the discourse of her intention, which somewhat astonished the princesse, and put her to an nonplus, that not knowing how a matter so brganne, should be so cunningly effected, but some likelihood of dissembling would appere, she exclaimeon Alinda, rattling and reuiling her for her presumption in attempting a matter so nearely touching her honour, without acquainting her therewith.

Alinda which hadde endured more showers and greater thunder cracks then the princesse could now rattle, quietly disgested her extremitie of spech, but no sooner gan the wnde to ouerblow, and the heate of her rage allayed: but Alynda which held her credite great, and carefully heding her Ladys god, submitting her selfe to the princesse, she besought her to regard all their gods, who had done this for her Ladishys god, and to colour all which, and well effect her desires, faire soms long sleep, that if the Emperoz shuld send to see her, th: y which shuld come might haue no speech with her. To this counsele of her old sureby the princesse listned, & promised to perorme what she directed. Scantly had they questioned of effecting what th: y wished, but one knocking easly at the chamber doore, brought word that the Emperoz with his phisitians were come to visit the princesse: to whom Alinda returned this answere with cut aduiseinent, that she was lately fallen asleepe, and besought his highnesse to pardon her a while, and to berae to comber her, whom they all hoped would be well amended by her rest. The Emperoz whose carefull doubts of her health, might not so be satisfied, would haue no deniall, but taking with him two phisitians, entred her chamber, so easly as might not awake her: all which demeanour of theirs, the princesse listned heedfully vnto, and with great delight noted the lamentable discourse of Alinda, relating the meane of her disease, which made the princesse smile to her selfe, and oftentimes to frame her fites accordingly, to the great admiration of the Emperour and all the beholders, which meper greed them,

especiallly

especially the emperoz, for that the time of pastime was so neare, which they might not with horor recall. This dispairing of the Princes health, when the Emperoz had bin an eis witnesse of, what was reported, loath to awake her whom he thought slept soundly: as quietly without any noise making as he could, hee left her to her rest, calling a councell amongst his nobilitie what was best to be done, either for prozoging y appointed pastimes, or performing the, according as they were expected. In which they had with diversite of counsaile, and sundrie opinions debated, it was generally concluded, the triumphs to begin and hold, wheron a trumpet sounded at the court gate, to give euerie combattant notice thereof, wherat the Princes and Alynda ioyed much. The Emperoz, though his care was great, and soxow more for the Princes sicknes, yet shewed himselfe frolike, the better to welcome the Princes strangers, wh: he wold not willingly discontent. But framing himselfe to mirth, as he best could, not without some touch of heauiness, he bad them almost hartly welcome, passing the time of dinner which they made shorter, by reason of their great busynesse, whom to their preparatiō: as we leaue, to returne to the princesse and Alynda, who not idle, but busily imployed about their affayres: after the Princesse by Alynda had giue straight charge, that none shuld be so hardy to come neare her lodging, she arme: herselfe, and at the time appointed was fully furnished as she could desire, Alynda being likewise suited, in rich attyre, befitting more the gallantess Courtier, then a Ladie. After she had prepared all things, and their horses orderly brought to the place by her appoynted, the princes attending to heare of the Emperozs coming to the place of triumph, wrode was brought Alynda, by her trustie messenger, which was no sooner heard, but Alynda mounting herselfe on her hackney with a horne richly bawdickt about her necke, possetd towards the Emperoz. By which time the filters were ready to ioyne. But hearing Alynda wind her horne as the vsuall maner of pastime is, they made stay of their courses, and discharged their staves. The Emperoz and all the Nobles hearing this sudden appach of a post, sent pre-

A Pleasant Historie of the

lensly a herald to know the meaning, and what hee was that entered the place in such manner, by whom she was brought to the Emperors presence, where doing her dutie as shee that could well demeane her selfe, she said. Use not (magnificent and mightie Prince) at this suddaine comming of a stranger: the simple messenger of a Knight aduenturous, who on somē urgent occasions hath made longer stay, then either he desired, or his dutie would allow: yet not willing to losē this oportunitie of shewing his loue vnto your excellencie, is now, though too late, arrived in this citie, and by me craveth to bee accepted into this noble assembly, to shew his forces in honour of your highnesse, amongst those honoured Princes and estates. The Emperour, and all the assembly attentiuely listning to the messenger, commended highly the audacious & meane of the supposed young man, thinking his maister to be no other but as the messenger reported, and loath to refuse his proffer, without enquierie from whence he was, or of what degree, they willing with a generall voice sayde, he shoulde be most heartilie welcome, causing a herald to command the company to stay vntill the Knights comming. Alynda having made this intermedium to their purpose, made no tarrying; but with al possible haste returned where she left the Princesse, who being alreadie mounted, attending her Alynda, who no sooner had the Emperours answere, but setting forwards, guided by her trusse Page Alynda, they arrived shortly at the place of triumph, into which entring, bewing her selfe vnto her horse necke, vnto those she first met, she passed her horse by hilt, with such a countenance, and maiestical grace, that every one admired, both her person, and god demeanour, every one censuring of her, yet none knowing what he shoulde be: comming neer vnto the place where the Emperour was, in like maner with thre lowly and courtlike courtesies, shee saluted him: where staying, Alynda delivered her sheld, vnto his princely hands wheron was powstred her own picture attired, holding in chaine thre pincers, which subiectid themselves to her, swearing their lealtie vnto her: her twyng, toke faith with thy frinde.

C. L. 1512

KNIGHT OF

refuered, among all the rest, many times reviewed, as this, & sper... which he much admired, craveng of those mons of the same, & desirous to knowe (if they cou... knight was: The knights having al their compa... the stranger knight, desirous him to make chiole of hi... run agaist, desirous the king of heralds which there wanted, to read the names of the the Tilters vnto him, which he had in a Catalogue. The princi... humbly thanking the for their loue and fauor, calling Alynda vnto her, commanded her to go the Empere... and to craveth at his hands, to trie agaist all comers, his knyght, for that by oath he was so enoyned, by the Ladie he most honour'd, beseeching the princes and roiall compa... not to haue in any al part this requieul of his, which was ready to kille & kyl vnsu... chivalrenesse. The Emperour which saw this knyght shew of boldnes in armes, was loath to hazarde him to any great vnguarding, by his to haue licence, to graunt that he myght. After report knowing the toyle, and perill imcedant to such assayres: yet considering his vowe made, as his messenger deliuered, and not haunting what sufficiencie the knyght vndid in himselfe, craved hym in his behalfe, the company woulde accept hym, wher on they stood aet long, put graunt: at which the Princesse was most ioyfull: so preparing her selfe, with such courage shee discharged on the Polonian Prince that first met her, as shee bare him violently to the ground, with such force, that had not helpe bene neare, he had bene spoyles of his limmes, so that wearied with this first bad fortune, and dishonour in the action, hee gaue ouer that dayes triumph, in whose place met her Arnedes of Lustran, a noble Duke, which she likewise foroyed: at which such admiration grewe, that there was no spech, but of the white Knyght, so calid by his armes, being no other wife knowne. Let it suffice, the honour of the day by generall consent was giuen vnto her, whome the Emperour and all the rest, desirous to loue, invited her to loue within his Court, whiche ther humblye vrged, returning manys great thankes

of the
ing her selfe in such sort, as she
used to recount his courtesies, her
gallant courage of him selfe in armes.
called by the Emperour to depart, wee leave the
her pleasure, ioying in her good fortunes, and se-
aling her selfe, and the Emperoz to his imaginations
of stranger knights, what sundry speeches at supper passed
in court, of her honours gained, I omit, let it suffice all persons,
as well that receyued soyle, as others, gave the honour and
commendations to her. What other occasions happened her,
with the Emperozs knowledge of this feigned knyght, I omit
so that the Hystorie leaues them so. The third and last part
shall shew Prince Edward his successe in all his troubles hap-
pening in his tragedies: the meeting of the Princesse with her
able husband, and honours of the two yong Lords, Nartel-
lion, and Constantine, with their conquest: which shall bring
thee more delight, if so thou accept this. Till when, and
ever, I crave your pardons and good opinions, to
be censured of this, which shall encourage
me to finish the rest, and ever be at
your devotion.

FINIS.